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Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 118 *19 June 1978*

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FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT

JN181505Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1418 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 18 June--The Arab Solidarity Committee has issued the following press statement at the end of its meetings:

The Arab Solidarity Committee held its second session in Khartoum on 17 and 18 June under the chairmanship of His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan, and with the participation of the foreign ministers of the Hasemite Kingdom of Jordan, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the YAR, as well as the secretary general of the Arab League.

The committee heard a report on the visits which the chairman of the committee paid to 15 Arab states, during which he met with the kings and presidents of these states. The report contained a full review and a general assessment of the circumstances of the Arab homeland and the results reached during the talks and dialog which the chairman of the committee held with his brother kings and presidents.

The members of the committee expressed their great appreciation to President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri for the noble efforts he is exerting for the sake of the Arab nation and the achievement of its objectives, which are the liberation of Arab lands and regaining the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

The visits and talks of the chairman of the committee have shown that everyone is fully convinced of the necessity for and the inevitability of restoring Arab solidarity and formulating a comprehensive Arab strategy for the economic, military and political elements of joint Arab action. Those visits and talks have also underlined the necessity of removing all obstacles and barriers preventing the achievement of Arab solidarity--our nation's weapon in its battles of war and peace.

Following the committee's discussion of this important report and its review of all obstacles and barriers on the path of Arab solidarity, which our nation seeks in accordance with what was determined at the Algiers and Rabat summits and the bases set out by the committee, the committee decided the following:

1. The chairman of the Solidarity Committee shall continue his appreciated efforts. It is also essential for the member states of the Solidarity Committee to hold bilateral contacts with the other Arab sides concerned, so they will adopt positions commensurate with the bases set out by the committee and the resolutions of the Algiers and Rabat summits and thus pave the way to achieving Arab solidarity. Each state shall communicate the results of its contacts to the chairman of the Solidarity Committee.

2. The Solidarity Committee shall hold its third session, at a time and place determined by the chairman of the committee, to examine the results of the contacts referred to in the previous paragraph.

3. The Arab Solidarity Committee shall draft a comprehensive Arab plan of action to cope with the challenges which our Arab nation will face in the next plase and to specify the tasks within the framework of national interests.

4. The chairman of Solidarity Council may call a meeting of the committee at the level of heads of state to review the results of the committee's work and to determine the steps of action in the coming phase.

APS: SAUDI ARABIA IMPEDES OPEC DISCUSSIONS

LD181648Y Algiers APS in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpts] Geneva, 18 June--The 51st session of OPEC opened in Geneva yesterday evening and resumed again this morning. During yesterday evening's meeting, the heads of the delegations spoke on the important topic of oil prices. Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabia's minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, proposed the total freezing of oil prices until the end of 1978. It now seems that we will be achieving no results. It also seems that one of the major factors impeding the discussions is undoubtedly that of the oil surplus which Saudi Arabia is using to prevent the upward adjustment of oil prices.

For some time it has been suggested that supply exceeds demand, and therefore there is no justification for increasing prices. Saudi Arabia and all those who adopt such an attitude have created great confusion. This suggestion is only a trick to prevent the oil-producing countries from making up the losses they suffered because of inflation and the decline in the dollar's rate of exchange. The act of swindle lies in the fallacy about the Alaska and North Sea oil.

The countries advocating the freezing of prices include in particular Saudi Arabia and, to a lesser extent, Iran, whose attitude at the Geneva conference seems less coherent. The position taken by Saudi Arabia runs contrary not only to its own interests but also to those of the other OPEC member countries. This is a difficult thing to understand, and the least that can be said is that it does not befit a country which is a member of an organization essentially founded to protect the interests of its members. OPEC is not now protecting the interests of its members. What is the purpose of OPEC when it stops implementing the set strategy established by the heads of its member states?

OPEC Agenda Altered

LD182258Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpts] OPEC ministers meeting in Geneva since yesterday have altered their agenda today in order to make way for more talks on oil prices. At the end of a 3-hour session this morning, the ministers decided to meet in another session this evening. OPEC ministers looked relaxed on leaving the meeting hall, but they have refused to make any comment on how far the meeting has advanced.

Abu Ahabi Radio reports that Dr Mani' al-'Utaybah, petroleum and natural resources minister of the United Arab Emirates, has announced during the OPEC ministers meeting that his country rejects any increase in oil prices this year. Dr al-'Utaybah also rejected a call by some OPEC member countries to discontinue using the dollar in oil transactions and to replace it with a group of strong currencies. He said that this is impossible because of the use of the dollar in world trade.

'SONS OF PALESTINE' CLAIMS YASIN'S ASSASSINATION

NC170942Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0905 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 17 June--The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-ANBA' today reports that it received an anonymous telephone call yesterday morning from a person who claimed that the organization of the Sons of Palestine [Munazzamat Abna' Falastin] assassinated 'Ali Yasin and that many others will follow him. The paper says that this is the first organization to claim responsibility for this incident.

Further Threats Reported

NC1709402 Doha QNA in Arabic 0845 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 17 June--Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, Fatah representative in Kuwait and the gulf, has stated that two Fatah leaders have received anonymous telephone calls threatening them with death. The information was given to the Kuwaiti investigation authority to help them in their search for the killers of 'Ali Yasin.

In a statement published in today's issue of the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, Abu al-Adib said that an official of the Fatah office in Kuwait received a telephone call at 1530 yesterday. His wife answered the telephone and the speaker said that 'Ali Yasin sent greetings to her husband, who was not at home. Abu al-Adib said that another Fatah official received a telephone call at 1640 yesterday as the funeral of 'Ali Yasin was taking place. Answering the phone, the son of the Fatah leader told the caller that his father was attending the funeral. The caller then told the son in English that his father was on the list after 'Ali Yasin.

Abu al-Adib declined to reveal the identity of the two officials in order to protect the secrecy of the Kuwaiti authorities' investigation.

PLO on Yasin, Lebanon

JN1618102 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1700 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held an emergency meeting this morning under brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the armed forces. The committee discussed the martyrdom of brother struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin, PLO representative in Kuwait. At the end of its meeting, the Executive Committee issued the following statement:

At its meeting at noon today in Beirut, the PLO Executive Committee discussed the brutal assassination of the director of the PLO office in Kuwait, martyr 'Ali Nasir Yasin. The Executive Committee sees that this ugly crime against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian revolution was carried out by Zionist agents hiding behind Arab intelligence organs with the aim of harming the Palestinian struggle and creating confusion in the Palestinian and Arab arenas and thereby serving imperialism, Zionism and their agents. Martyr 'Ali Nasir Yasin carried out his responsibility with trustworthiness, dedication and loyalty. During his devoted work, martyr Yasin rendered significant services to the sons of our Palestinian people. This is known to everyone who worked with him. While strongly condemning and vehemently denouncing political assassination and organized terrorism against the PLO, its leaders and the Palestinian people and their representatives, the PLO Executive Committee denounced the brutal crime against martyr hero 'Ali Nasir Yasin. The committee considers this crime by well-known, suspicious groups as a cowardly act and stresses that the PLO will not stand idly by.

The PLO Executive Committee also issued a statement on the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon. The statement says: At its meeting on 16 June 1978, the PLO Executive Committee discussed the situation in southern Lebanon in light of the Israeli practices [words indistinct] the complete withdrawal from the Lebanese territories occupied during their recent aggression.

The Executive Committee desires to point out the following:

1. The Israeli forces of aggression continue their occupation of a number of positions and areas inside the Lebanese territory, particularly in the hilly areas overlooking the border strip.

2. The reports on withdrawal from occupied areas and on handing these areas over to agent forces--who, according to the Israeli forces, were partners with the Israeli forces during their recent aggression and supplied them with arms, ammunition and personnel--indicate that these acts are in fact a continuation of the occupation and a continuation of Israeli domination of these areas.

3. The UN troops have so far failed to achieve a complete Israeli withdrawal, and these troops have not yet entered the border areas which are under the control of the isolationist forces under local agent commands, which are supplied with arms and [words indistinct] a matter violating legality and international will.

4. The PLO, which has been eager to make every effort to facilitate the mission of the UN troops in supervising the achievement of an Israeli withdrawal, sees that what has taken place is a deception and a maneuver by the enemy. The responsibility for a real withdrawal should be shouldered by the United Nations and other concerned quarters. The PLO also sees that the silence of these quarters over these serious measures serves the suspicious plans designed to harm Lebanon's sovereignty, reward the aggressor for his aggression and threaten security and peace in Lebanon and the entire world.

Fatah Discusses Yasin

JN161700Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The Central Committee of Fatah held a meeting last night and discussed the martyrdom of struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin, the PLO representative in Kuwait. The committee also discussed a number of subjects and measures concerning the Palestinian issue. The radio correspondent has learned that a delegation representing Fatah--composed of Abu Iyad and Abu al-Adib, members of Fatah Central Committee; Hani al-Hasan, member of Fatah Revolutionary Council; and Staff Brig Gen brother Abu al-Walid, director of the Central Operations Room of the joint forces--has left for Kuwait to discuss the subject of the martyrdom of struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin with the Kuwaiti Government.

Abu Iyad Comments

JN181830Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1700 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has directly accused Abu Nidal, who was condemned by Fatah and given refuge in Iraq, of having organized the operation to assassinate martyr struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin, director of the PLO office in Kuwait.

Brother Abu Iyad has denied news reports on the presence of an organization called the Sons of Palestine. In a statement he made prior to his departure for Kuwait yesterday, after he participated in the funeral of martyr 'Ali Yasin, Abu Iyad said: This organization does not exist except in the imagination of those who conspire against the Palestinian cause. The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' reported that it had received an anonymous telephone call from someone who claimed that the organization of the Sons of Palestine was responsible for the assassination of 'Ali Yasin.

In his statement Abu Iyad added: If the Iraqi Government is not responsible for what happened in Kuwait, it must close down the so-called Voice of the Palestinian Revolution in Baghdad, close the offices of Abu Nidal and end his activities. When that is done, we can believe that Iraq is not behind the incident; this radio creates a state of division among Palestinians, which does not exist in reality. It also spreads an atmosphere of rancor--something which facilitates Israel's decisions regarding the liquidation of the Palestinian leadership.

Abu Iyad further added: The Iraqi officials have promised several times to close down this door, which can only harm the Palestinian revolution. He then stated that the revolution will always follow the perpetrators and will certainly reach them, because the blood of 'Ali Yasin and that of Sa'id Hammami before him will not be wasted.

Regarding the investigation currently being carried out by the revolution, brother Abu Iyad said: Many of its controlling strings are in our hands; and we are cooperating with the Kuwaiti authorities. We have complete confidence in these authorities and will supply them with all the information they ask for.

VOP Scores Iraq

JN161750Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[News analysis]

[Excerpts] Following the assassination of struggler martyr 'Ali Nasir Yasin, the finger of accusation pointed at the Baghdad intelligence services. Then the Palestinian and Arab citizens asked a question: Why did Baghdad intelligence do that? What are the political purposes of this criminal operation against Palestinian strugglers?

We have to place on record that this question, which was asked after the assassination of 'Ali Yasin, was also asked after similar operations carried out by the same quarters, such as the assassination of martyr Sa'id Hammami in London.

Why did Baghdad intelligence venture upon such operations, and why did they volunteer to carry out this mission against the Palestinian revolution and its cadres at this very time? To answer this we must place on record a fact known by the Arabs concerning the Iraqi regime's attitude toward Fatah in particular and the Palestinian revolution in general. The fact is that the Iraqi regime sees that Fatah is independent in its national decisions and has an effective revolutionary course, not only in the Palestinian domain but also in the Arab and international domains. Because Fatah has an independent will and decision-making power, and has a growing and effective role--this, according to the assessment and analysis of the Iraqi regime, will expose the important and weak aspects of flagging Arab policies, the foremost of which of course is the Iraqi regime's policy. The weakness and impotence of this policy became clear after As-Sadat's visit to the Zionist entity. The Iraqi regime was content to offer propaganda without doing anything concrete in resisting and foiling the consequences of the visit for the future of the pan-Arab struggle. We believe the Arabs have not forgotten the birth of the front of steadfastness and confrontation. The Iraqi regime's attitude concerning this front was no less convulsive than As-Sadat's. We will not exaggerate if we say that the Iraqi regime's attitude prevented the birth of an Arab military strike force which would have frustrated As-Sadat's capitulatory course and foiled its damaging effects.

If Fatah's responsible and faithful stand was interpreted by the Baghdad intelligence departments as a kind of weakness or acceptance of the logic of murder, assassination and betrayal, we will tell them to wake up and remember that Fatah is the Palestinian people and that Fatah's gun is the gun of the free revolutionaries in this area. The blood of Fatah's sons is the blood of the honest sons of this nation. It cannot be wasted. Let them also keep in mind that Fatah, the Palestinian revolution, may grant a respite but does not forget.

PLO Leaders Attend Funeral

LD162047Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Summary] 'Ali Nasir Yasin, director of the PLO office in Kuwait, was buried in Kuwait this afternoon. The minister of the interior, the minister of planning and governor of Kuwait represented the Kuwaiti Government at the funeral. The PLO leaders who attended included Salah Khalaf and Brig Sa'd Hayil, representing the head of the PLO; the political adviser to the head of the PLO Hani al-Hasan and Salim az-Za'nun.

Kuwaiti Amir's Condolences

JN181840Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar received yesterday evening a cable of condolences from His Highness Prince Jabir al-Ahmad, amir of the State of Kuwait, on the martyrdom of brother struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin, director of the PLO office in Kuwait. The following is the text of the cable:

Dear brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee: We have received with great sorrow the news of the assassination of brother martyr 'Ali Nasir Yasin, who dedicated his life to Palestine and performed his duty perfectly. While sending you my warmest condolences and consolations, I pray for God to have mercy on the departed and grant his family solace.

From God we come and to Him we return.

[Signed] Jabir al-Ahmad, amir of the State of Kuwait.

Foreign Minister's Condolences

JN171852Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has received more condolences on the martyrdom of the struggler 'Ali Nasir Yasin, PLO representative in Kuwait. Yesterday evening, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah telephoned brother Abu 'Ammar and conveyed to him the condolences of his highness the amir of Kuwait and the Kuwaiti Government, as well as his personal condolences, on the death of martyr 'Ali Nasir Yasin, representative of the organization.

PALESTINIANS AGREE NOT TO RETURN TO FATAHLAND

NC131013Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 13 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 13 June--In a dispatch from Beirut, the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH today reports that the Palestinian command has agreed not to return to the Al-'Urqub area in southern Lebanon, which was known as Fatahland.

It will do this in return for being allowed to establish an armed presence in the area between the Az-Zahrani and Litani rivers.

Quoting political sources in the Lebanese capital, the paper says that the Palestinian command has communicated its agreement in this respect to the Lebanese presidency. The paper says the Palestinian command adopted this decision in order to facilitate the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and to prevent several sides from accusing the Palestinians of obstructing the withdrawal.

The paper says that the transfer of the Palestinian armed presence to a new area will be accompanied by a reorganization of these forces in order to secure a higher degree of discipline.

VOP REPORTS ON 'ARAFAT'S MEETING WITH AL-ASAD

JN171820Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, met this morning with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in the presence of Khalid al-Hasan and Muhammad Ghunaym, members of the Fatah Central Committee.

The meeting, which lasted for over four hours, dealt with various topics pertaining to bilateral relations and other affairs related to the current developments which the Palestinian revolution must confront on more than one level. The meeting was characterized by a positive atmosphere of fraternity. The parties were in agreement on all topics of discussion.

ABU JIHAD MEETS POLITICAL LEADERS OF AL-'ASIFAH

JN171825Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Jihan [Khalil al-Wazir], member of the Fatah Central Committee and member of the General Command of Al-'Asifah forces, met this morning with the political commissioners of the Mobilization and Political Guidance Department of Al-'Asifah forces. Abu Jihad explained the political and public situation and reviewed the Mobilization and Political Guidance Department's working plan for the forthcoming stage within Al-'Asifah forces.

PFLP'S JIBRIL WARNS AGAINST 'TRAITORS' IN LEBANON

LD162258Y Tripoli JANA in English 1417 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, June 18, JANA--Ahmad Jibril, secretary-general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, has warned against handing over positions occupied by (Israeli) forces in southern Lebanon to the isolationist forces led by the agent Sa'd Haddad and the isolationist Sami Shidyak.

Mr Jibril said: "Whatever the conditions, we refuse to let the isolationists represent the Lebanese legitimate authorities in the areas from which (Israeli) forces withdrew." He told the JANA correspondent at the end of his visit that Camille Sham'un and Pierre al-Jumayyil were attempting to preserve the status quo in southern Lebanon. He pointed out that when (Israeli) forces withdrew from certain positions in the area, they handed over their arms and military equipment to the isolationist militia in an attempt to establish an isolationist power in these regions.

Mr. Jibril called on the U.N. peace keeping forces to fulfill their duty for which they had come and not to allow Sa'd Haddad's gang to benefit from the (Israeli) withdrawal. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Progressive and Nationalist powers would not accept the status quo, pointing out that a highly dangerous situation in southern Lebanon would ensure if the isolationists were to take over areas there. He added that the Palestinian resistance had not opposed the restoration of Lebanese legitimacy in southern Lebanon on the grounds that this did not conflict with the agreements between the resistance and the Lebanese Government. He said they agreed to the establishment of the Lebanese Government's authority over every inch of southern Lebanon and that they were totally committed to controlling their elements and to honoring the agreements regulating their relations with the Lebanese authorities.

He went on to say that the resistance would not stand arms folded before the behavior which aims at maintaining an (Israeli) presence of whatever sort in southern Lebanon, but that it would give the Lebanese Government a chance to solve their problem; afterwards, however, the Palestinian resistance would not leave the matter to drift according to isolationist, racist and colonialist ways, he added. He affirmed that the resistance would never be held responsible for the contradictions into which the U.N. forces had fallen.

Regarding the agreements concluded between the Palestinian resistance and the legitimate government in Lebanon, he said: "We will carry out these agreements but we will never accept the traitor Sa'd Haddad as a representative of legitimacy."

Mr. Jibril strongly condemned the fascist repressive measures being taken by the Egyptian president against the freedom of the press and progressive journalists in Egypt. In this respect he said: "The Egyptian president had been at pains to deceive the Egyptian and Arab citizens by his alleged democratic practices. Such make-believe allegations will never last long since the visit of shame has aroused the people's [passage indistinct] and foreign policy. So he started hysterically to overreact by stifling the voices of these forces and splitting them in a predictable bid to legitimize his crime. But thanks to the enlightenment of the Arab and Egyptian masses, his plans and undemocratic practices have been unmasked."

FATAH'S ABU SALIH MEETS WITH NASIRITE LEADER

JN171827Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1800 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu Salih, Fatah Central Committee member, met yesterday with brother Ibrahim Qulaylat, leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun. During the meeting, which was attended by a number of the movement's members, a discussion was held on the current situation in southern Lebanon following the fictitious Israeli withdrawal. A review was also made of the latest developments in the Palestinian issue on the Arab and international levels.

PLO SPOKESMAN MEETS WITH CUBAN, GDR ENVOYS

JN161713Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Text] PLO Executive Committee spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar met yesterday with the Cuban ambassador in Damascus and exchanged views with him on the current situation.

The Cuban ambassador affirmed to brother Abu Mayzar Cuba's complete support for the Palestinian people and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism and for the achievement of the Palestinian people's right to return home, to self-determination and to establish their independent state on their soil.

Abu Mayzar also met with the GDR charge in Damascus. During the meeting, they exchanged views on the current situation.

VOP ASKS IRAQ TO STOP ACTIVITIES AGAINST RESISTANCE

JN182048Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1715 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] What gives rise to bitterness in our souls is that there is a certain Arab regime which continues to raise large and glittering slogans, the achievement of which--or at least the achievement of part of them--merits the pooling of the entire Arab potential. However, what we see now is that these slogans are being offered as a present to Palestine on radios and in resolutions adopted by national and regional conferences, while at the same time these slogans are being used to cover all kinds of conspiracies against the sons of Palestine--against those who are carrying the guns, those who are truly fighting for the liberation of Palestine and for the liberation of the human beings who live there.

What is more dangerous is that such conspiracies are taking place under a Palestinian slogan we all know to be weak, counterfeit and far away from, contrary to the Palestinian struggle movement and the requirements and the just objectives of this struggle movement. To avoid generalities and abstract signs, we offer a living example of such a trend. It is the Iraqi regime, which raises big slogans that begin and end in the liberation of all Palestinian soil. However, these slogans always stop at a certain point and will not go further. That is, they remain slogans broadcast on the air, published in newspapers and included in resolutions.

If the matter stopped at this point, we would say that the brothers in Iraq are like the other brothers who pay lipservice to Palestine from afar. We would also say that a day will come when intentions will become sincere and slogans loyal. But what has happened is that behind these big slogans there has emerged a suspicious and dangerous trend. It is a trend which raises a Palestinian slogan, or one just painted with a Palestinian color, while all the factual and material results of these trends are summarized in the assassination of some of the sons of Palestine, or, if we want to put it a different way, by hunting down these sons of Palestine in London, or in Kuwait, or wherever the hands of the killers can reach.

These hands can reach easy places only. Our Iraqi brothers claim that they have nothing to do with the killers and that the killers are working independently, away from the Iraqi planning and will. We would have believed this were it not for the fact that relations between the killers and the Iraqi authorities are conducted under the wings of darkness or in the corridors of the intelligence service or in embassies. We, as well as the Arab citizen, cannot believe this Iraqi disavowal while the killers are moving freely in Baghdad, day and night, and have at their disposal an official radio transmitter operating on the Baghdad wavelengths. This transmitter has only one aim: To sabotage the Palestinian revolutionary struggle and to transmit lies and intrigues that are paralleled only on the Zionist radio.

We tell our Iraqi brothers and those in any other Arab land that our blood is still being spilled on Palestinian soil. If you want to enter the battlefield, then the door is wide open and we do not think that you are far away from it. But if you prefer to stay where you are, then we have just one request which we shall continue to repeat: Let us fight alone. Take your daggers out of the waists of the Palestinian sons, because this homeland for which we are fighting needs every drop of blood in our veins.

YASIR 'ARAFAT GRANTS INTERVIEW TO TANJUG

AU161405Y Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 6 Jun 78 p 5 AU

[TANJUG report]

[Text] Damascus, 5 June--Yasir 'Arafat, president of the PLO Executive Committee, assesses the situation in Lebanon as very complex and critical. However, the Palestinian movement, in cooperation with the Lebanese Government and the United Nations, will do its best to help to settle the situation and to facilitate the task of the UN forces which are supervising the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied parts of southern Lebanon.

In a lengthy interview with Mirko Akesentijevic, special TANJUG correspondent, Palestinian movement leader Yasir 'Arafat also stressed that Israel's delays in withdrawing its forces from southern Lebanon are making the situation critical and dangerous. Every day, 'Arafat said, Israel confirms its alliance with isolationist forces in Lebanon and aids them with arms and other supplies, and it is also linked with the rightist forces in Lebanon. It is obvious that this triple alliance--Israel, isolationists and the United States--led to the 8-day war against the Palestinian forces in southern Lebanon as well as to the shooting at the members of the Arab League forces and to other incidents.

As regards the Palestinian movement, 'Arafat said, its units have offered aid to the UN forces and facilitated the accomplishment of their basic task, the control over the withdrawal of Israeli troops. Unfortunately, some incidents occurred with the UN forces, but they were provoked by those who have no connection with the Palestinian revolution. The PLO quickly took the matter in hand, 'Arafat added.

Asked what he could say about the Cairo Agreement, which has recently been mentioned as an "obstacle" to the solving of the evacuation problems, 'Arafat said: The Cairo Agreement concerns only the Lebanese and the Palestinians. It was signed between the representatives of the Lebanese authorities and the Palestinian movement, and it was confirmed at two Arab summits, in Riyad and Cairo. Later on some protocols were also concluded, such as the one of Shtawrah, so as to elaborate the clauses of the Cairo Agreement. Our brothers of Syria also took part in this. On the basis of all this, the stay of the Palestinians in Lebanon and their coexistence with the Lebanese falls within the framework of these agreements and protocols.

Asked about his assessment of relations between the Palestinian movement and Syria, 'Arafat said: I believe that our links with Syria are of essential importance and have a strategic scope. We may say that these links have been strengthened and consolidated in recent months. It also should not be forgotten that our links with our Syrian brothers have a geopolitical significance and dimension. Apart from historical and national connections, it should not be forgotten that Palestine is the south of Syria and Syria the north of Palestine. It also should not be forgotten that these are the two main pillars of the resistance front [front otpora] which opposes chauvinistic expansionism and aggressive dangers to the Arab nation.

Expounding his view on Amman's project to create a federated Jordanian-Palestinian kingdom, 'Arafat stated: In this respect one must above all recall the decisions of the Arab summit in Rabat as well as others; for instance, the resolutions of the United Nations and of the gatherings of the nonalined countries. These decisions very clearly determine the rights of the Palestinian people: the right to return to their homeland, the right of self-determination and the right to set up an autonomous, independent state on their own soil. In addition, during his recent visit to Yugoslavia, King Husayn again confirmed the right of the Palestinians to an independent state. There is no doubt that we understand that special links have arisen in the relations between the Palestinians and Jordan and that the PLO leadership bears this in mind.

Asked what he thinks about the possibility of Arab reconciliation and the holding of a summit meeting, the Palestinian leader said that certain conditions should be created for the holding of such a gathering. These conditions cannot be created, however, as long as Arab-Israeli meetings exist. If an Arab conference were held under these conditions it would mean that we recognize the Arab-Israeli contacts. What is essential is the unity in aims and not the unity of ranks.

Initiatives which do not rest on this will sooner or later reach a deadlock. I am personally convinced, 'Arafat said, that the existing initiative was destroyed with the tracks of American and Israeli tanks during the latest war in southern Lebanon. However, the Arab nation will come to the conclusion that the only road is through a persistent struggle against the aggressive and expansionist policy of the enemies. It is a matter of enemies who are determined to annihilate the Palestinian people without batting an eye, and they are supported by those who call themselves defenders of human rights.

Asked about his assessment of the current situation in the Middle East, 'Arafat said:

The Americans are still firmly determined to dominate in this entire region. In order to achieve this aim, they use all kinds of plots and diplomatic, political and military actions. Blood which is shed in clashes in this region bears American traces. Such American behavior confirms the support for Israel, to which the United States offers assistance and encourages it to continue aggression against the Arab and Palestinian nation. The United States still negates reality in this region; it negates the rights of the Palestinian people.

Negating the Palestinian reality represented by the PLO, negating the PLO and the entire Palestinian people, the United States in fact negates the essence of the Middle East problem. On behalf of this people and on behalf of the entire Arab nation I can say that there is no peace solution or security at the expense of the Palestinian people.

One should particularly bear in mind the fact that the Palestinian people are not alone. All the peoples who are for peace and freedom, the peoples of the socialist countries, the peoples of the nonalined countries, the peoples of the Moslem countries as well as numerous friends among the democratic forces in the West itself are with them, Yasir 'Arafat concluded.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR AL-'AYZARIYAH EXPLOSION CLAIMED

JN181735Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The Palestinian revolutionaries have carried out a bold operation against Zionist targets and installations on the Jerusalem-Jericho road, inside the occupied homeland.

The military spokesman of the General Command of the Palestinian revolution forces has issued the following statement on this operation:

At noon today, 17 June, a special group planted timed explosive charges inside specified targets in the region of Al-'Ayzariyah, on the Jerusalem-Jericho road in occupied Palestine. The charges went off on time, 1500 that same day, with the following results:

1. The filling station on the main road was seriously damaged;

2. A rest-house belonging to the Tourist Department was blown up and all its contents destroyed;

3. An unspecified number of the enemy who happened to be near the bus station in the same area were injured.

The statement added that the enemy encircled the scene of the incident with large elements of the army, police and borderguard forces, and launched a wide-scale combing operation in search of our revolutionaries, who were able to return to their bases successfully, according to plan.

The Zionist enemy used its patrols and roadblocks in the area to arrest scores of Palestinian citizens under the pretext of their having a connection with the operation. The Palestinian military spokesman has estimated the Zionist enemy's preliminary material losses in this offensive at one-half million Israeli pounds. The human losses have not yet been specified.

Additional Explosion

JN161710Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The Palestinian fighters have detonated a timed explosive in an enemy bus station near Herod's Gate in Jerusalem. A number of vehicles were destroyed or damaged and a number of enemy soldiers were killed or wounded.

The military spokesman of the General Command of the Palestinian revolution forces today issued the following communique:

One of our special groups yesterday entered Jerusalem, which has been witnessing unprecedented, stringent security measures. They proceeded towards the target, an enemy bus station near Herod's Gate, where numerous enemy soldiers and settlers are usually gathered while waiting to move out of Jerusalem. The Palestinian fighters placed timed explosives in the bus station. At 2130 yesterday the charges exploded. A number of enemy soldiers were wounded or killed and several vehicles were destroyed. Ambulances evacuated the casualties while enemy patrols and road block troops searched for other charges. Then, as usual, enemy authorities arrested a number of Palestinians in the town for investigation, claiming they had a connection with the operation. Our fighters have returned safely to base.

KUWAIT

GUINEAN PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE HOLDS TALKS WITH RULER

LD181145Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpts] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure called on the amir of Kuwait at As-Sif Palace at 0915 today and talks were held between the Guinean and Kuwaiti sides.

Minister of the Amiri Court Shaykh Salim al-Ahmad al-Jabir said that the talks centered on bilateral relations between the two friendly countries and how to develop them in all fields. They also covered Arab-African relations, conditions in the Moslem world and matters of common interest.

The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere characterized by understanding and unity.

QATAR

SEKOU TOURE ARRIVES IN DOHA 19 JUNE

NC190844Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 19 Jun 78 NC

[Excerpt] Doha, 19 June--Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure arrived in Doha this morning from Kuwait on a 2-day official visit to Qatar as part of his tour of a number of Arab states. Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, was among the officials who welcomed President Sekou Toure at Doha international airport.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAR FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD161858Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah Al-Asnaj arrived in Jidda this evening on an official 2-day visit, during which he will hold talks with Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and other officials on questions of interest to the two countries. He was welcomed at the airport by Gen Mansur ash-Shu'aybi, commander of the military district of Jidda, a Foreign Ministry official and the Yemeni ambassador.

Al-Asnaj said his talks will review various questions of common interest and the progress of the work of the Saudi-Yemeni coordination committee. The talks will also deal with the next step to be taken within the framework of the Committee for Arab Solidarity which has been invited by President Numayri to meet in Khartoum.

Al-Asnaj told the SAUDI NEWS AGENCY that the Yemeni Government is in agreement with leaders in the Saudi Kingdom on the need to close the Arab ranks and to end all problems affecting them.

SAUDI, YAR, KUWAITI FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVE FOR KHARTOUM

LD171050Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Jun 78--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, left Riyadh for Khartoum early this afternoon along with YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj and Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to attend the sessions of the 2-day meeting of the Committee for Arab Solidarity due to begin there today.

'Abdallah al-Asnaj arrived in Riyadh early today from Jidda. A short while after Al-Asnaj's arrival, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad also arrived in Riyadh. They both were welcomed by Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal.

Foreign Minister Returns

LD180852Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 18 June--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister returned to Riyadh early today from Khartoum.

Prince Saud al-Faysal went to Khartoum yesterday morning to attend the meeting of the Arab Solidarity Committee held in the Sudanese capital yesterday.

KING RECEIVES ZAIRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

LD171733Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1607 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 1830 this evening at his office at the royal court at Al-Ma'dhar received Umba-Di-Lutete, Zairian foreign minister, who handed his majesty a message from His Excellency Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation; Dr Rashad Far'awn, his majesty's adviser, and the Zairian ambassador to the kingdom.

The Zairian foreign minister arrived in the kingdom this Wednesday.

Umba-Di-Lutete Departs

LD180946Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 18 June--Umba-Di-Lutete, Zairian state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, left Jidda early today after a 4-day visit to Saudi Arabia.

During the visit the Zairian minister delivered a message from Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

UAE

PETROLEUM MINISTER LEAVES FOR GENEVA OPEC MEETING

JN161029Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1020 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 16 June--Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, left the UAE for Geneva today at the head of a delegation to attend the meetings of the OPEC Ministerial Council which will begin there tomorrow.

MINISTER ON OIL PRICE FREEZE, WORLD OIL GLUT

JN181818Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1735 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Geneva, 18 June--The UAE petroleum and natural resources minister, Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, has said in an exclusive statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY that the OPEC countries, including the UAE, have decided to freeze oil prices until the end of this year. He added that since last year the OPEC countries have lost 12-15 percent of their revenue because of the drop in the value of the dollar, and this, he said, calls for a new policy for pricing oil.

Dr al-'Utaybah said that the UAE prefers a transfer from the dollar to another system for paying oil revenues. This system would be based on three elements: first, the creation of a basket of strong Western currencies for pricing oil; second, the introduction of some of the currencies of the OPEC countries themselves, in addition to the Western currencies; and third, the adoption of gold.

Dr al-'Utaybah pointed to the need for a two-tier system for pricing the dollar: One would be fixed and the other fluctuating, so that the value of payments would remain steady and unaffected by any drop in the value of the fluctuating dollar price in international money markets.

Dr al-'Utaybah rejected the demand of certain countries to eliminate the dollar completely from the proposed basket of currencies because of the wide use of the dollar in international trade. Saudi Arabia also rejected any deviation from using the dollar as the basis for oil payments, saying that the position of the dollar is improving.

Regarding oil production, Dr al-'Utaybah said that the OPEC conference discussed the need to reduce oil production to balance demand in the world market. He said that OPEC countries produce 31 million barrels daily, but there is a demand for only 29 million barrels daily. This means there is a glut of 2 million barrels daily, creating an increase of supply over demand.

It has been learned in Geneva that the new planning committee, composed of the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Venezuela, Kuwait and Algeria, will hold a meeting tonight to discuss OPEC's long-term oil strategy.

The OPEC ministers will hold their final plenary meeting tomorrow, Monday.

TROOPS LEAVE FOR BEIRUT TO JOIN DETERRENT FORCE

JN181520Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1340 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 June--The fourth and last group of UAE troops left here this morning for Beirut to participate in the Arab deterrent force in Lebanon.

It will be recalled that Lt Col Khamis Sa'id will assume command of the UAE forces in Lebanon, instead of Staff Lt Col Muhammad Khamis, who will return home with his troops after having spent 6 months in Lebanon.

ZAIRIAN ENVOY BRINGS MESSAGE, LEAVES FOR KUWAIT

JN171520Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 June--(Lungima Dolia), envoy of Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, left here this afternoon for Kuwait following an official 3-day visit to the UAE. During the visit, the Zairian presidential envoy delivered a written message to His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, UAE president, from the Zairian president. The letter dealt with promoting bilateral relations and the latest developments in the situation in Africa, particularly in Shaba Province.

SOUTH KOREAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES

JN161447Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1420 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 June--South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Yi Mun-yong arrived here from Muscat at noon today on a 2-day visit to the UAE.

In a statement upon his arrival, Yi said his visit is intended to strengthen existing relations of cooperation between the two countries and to increase the level of cooperation between them in the service of the aspirations of their two peoples.

He expressed his hope and that of his country to establish diplomatic representation between the two countries as soon as possible. He said that although such representation does not now exist, relations between the two countries are strong and good.

Speaking about Korea's stand on the Middle East problem, Yi said that his country has continually supported and backed UN Resolution 242, which provides for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and for the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He added: We will always stress the need for Israel's withdrawal in all international and regional bodies. We also support the international efforts that are being exerted to solve the dispute through peaceful negotiations.

Meets With Minister

JN171510Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1415 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 June--Sa'id Ahmad al-Ghabbash, UAE minister of planning and acting minister of foreign affairs, met in Abu Dhabi at noon today with Yi Mun-yong, South Korean deputy foreign minister, who is currently visiting the UAE.

Following the meeting, Sa'id al-Ghabbash stated they discussed bilateral relations and ways to improve them. He said ways to increase cooperation between the two countries in various fields, especially economics and commerce, were also discussed. He further said that the Korean deputy minister briefed him on the situation in Southeast Asia, especially on relations between North and South Korea, and on the efforts being exerted to solve the problems between the two countries by means of peaceful negotiations at the United Nations and through the nonalined countries.

The Bahraini minister added that the two sides expressed their desire to exchange diplomatic representation and said that this topic would again be discussed by the two sides.

SPEAKER MAR'I GRANTS INTERVIEW TO AN-NAHAR

NC17144 1Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 17 June--Engineer Sayyid Mar'i, speaker of the Egyptian People's Assembly, has stated that the surprise President Anwar as-Sadat has been talking about is a domestic one. He called on Egyptian journalists working abroad not to be afraid of returning to Egypt as they will not be detained.

Mar'i said this in an interview published today in the newspaper AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, which was granted during Mar'i's 1-hour stopover at France's Charles de Gaulle Airport. Mar'i stopped over in France while en route to New York at the official invitation of the U.S. Congress. Sayyid Mar'i said in the interview that about 300 members of the U.S. Congress has visited Egypt and that they had all discussed the Middle East question.

He said it is his duty to respond to the invitation from Congress in order to hold contacts at the parliamentary level and to discuss various subjects at this level. The speaker of the Egyptian People's Assembly said that during his 25-day visit to the United States he will not limit his contacts to meeting members of the Congress but he will outline the aspects of the Middle East question and developments in this situation, including the Israeli stand, particularly at this time.

Engineer Sayyid Mar'i said that President Anwar as-Sadat's statement to the 2d Army, which has been interpreted as hinting at war, must not be viewed out of context from the whole speech. Noting that foreign newspapers had played up this aspect of the speech, he said this was not fair because it is always assumed that statement by a head of state will be viewed as a whole.

After citing President as-Sadat's statement on this particular point, Sayyid Mar'i asked whether those who had noted the point about the possibility of war breaking out had expected President as-Sadat to say "I have dissolved the army," for instance. Mar'i said that President as-Sadat addressed the soldiers and told them: When the time comes for us to ask you to perform your duty, I want you to carry out your duty as you did in October.

Sayyid Mar'i said: President as-Sadat was not calling for war, but was analyzing a specific stand. He was analyzing what would happen if all the peaceful efforts were exhausted. Would we accept the occupation of our territory and would we agree that the Palestinian question is not the main Arab cause? He said: We will not accept this.

Asked whether Egypt would enter a war on its own, Mar'i said: This is premature.

Engineer Sayyid Mar'i expressed surprise at the request of the steadfastness states for abandoning President as-Sadat's initiative and said that this request was astonishing. He said that the initiative was an action and that the results of this action have materialized and are materializing daily.

Speaker Mar'i noted in this respect the question of the U.S. arms for Saudi Arabia and Egypt and the change in the world public opinion resulting from the initiative. He said that the initiative has been self-propelling and achieving results. We must be patient and wait a little while, although as Egyptians we expect quicker results.

He denied that there are now contacts between Egypt and Israel. He affirmed that the recent measures in Egypt do not in any way mean the destruction of democracy.

Speaker Mar'i said that when matters crystallize in the next 2 months, it will be seen that the course which the president has adopted and which Egypt has adopted toward democracy is a course of no retreat. He denied that anybody has been detained [for political reasons] and said that Deputy al-Hariri had been arrested redhanded carrying arms.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE DISCUSSES FOREIGN POLICY

NC172023Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Text] The People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee held a meeting this evening under the chairmanship of the assembly's deputy speaker, Dr Jamal al-'Utayfi. The committee heard a statement by Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil on Egypt's foreign policy and the results of the efforts which Egypt is exerting to achieve a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis.

After the meeting the assembly's deputy speaker, Dr Jamal al-'Utayfi, said that the discussions of the members and the clarifications given by the foreign minister were frank, that the committee fully approved the recent Egyptian diplomatic moves and that the committee has begun to analyze the statement which the foreign minister delivered at the UN General Assembly's session on disarmament. The committee analyzed particularly has condemnation of the existing cooperation between Israel and South Africa in the nuclear field and the effect of this on the chances of peace in the Middle East and Africa and on the position of Israel, which has not responded to Egypt's peace efforts.

In its discussions the committee analyzed the U.S. attitude and its positive elements, the last of which was the aircraft deal.

Further Report

NC172202Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Excerpts] The People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee held a meeting this evening under the chairmanship of the assembly's deputy speaker, Dr Jamal al-'Utayfi. Al-'Utayfi stated after the meeting: The foreign minister has declared that the U.S. State Department condemns Israel's exploitation of the oil in the occupied part of Sinai. The committee analyzed Israel's delay in answering the questions which the U.S. State Department put to the Israeli Government. The conferees hope that the U.S. position will develop enough to push forward the peace process because no party can exploit the desire for peace in order to continue its illegitimate occupation of the Arab territories and to deny the Arabs their legitimate rights.

Dr al-'Utayfi further said that in its discussions the committee dealt with the idea of returning the West Bank to the Jordanian administration and the Gaza sector to the Egyptian administration as a first step toward enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right for self-determination within an Arab framework. This idea was received with interest and favor by many sides.

The discussions also dealt with the Arab situation in general, the situation in Lebanon and the mission which President Ja'far Numayri is carrying out to restore Arab solidarity. The foreign minister emphasized Egypt's concern for Arab solidarity and its cooperation with President Numayri.

The committee also discussed foreign interference in the affairs of Africa. It emphasized the need for solving the African problems within the framework of the OAU in order to spare the continent a conflict among the big states.

SOMALI PRESIDENT ARRIVES IN CAIRO 18 JUNE

NC181408Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1350 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 June--Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre arrived in Cairo from Mogadiscio this afternoon accompanied by a delegation composed of Abdurahman Jama Barre, Minister of State for Presidential Affairs [illegible]'Abdi Warsama Issak, Public Works Minister Mohamed Hawadle Madar, and a number of experts and specialists.

Meeting Barre at the airport were Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, Somali Ambassador to Egypt Abdulrahim Abby Farah and embassy officials.

The Somali president is scheduled to leave Cairo later today for the FRG on a 3-day visit, after which he will visit Britain.

Leaves Cairo

NC181533Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1517 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 June--Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre left Cairo for the FRG at 1600 today. President Barre was seen off at the airport by Vice President Husni Mubarak, Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il and Somali Ambassador in Cairo Abdulrahim Abby Farah.

A responsible source in the Somali delegation said that President Barre will meet with President Anwar as-Sadat on his way back home from his visits to the FRG and Britain. The Somali president arrived in Cairo airport at 1515. He stopped over for 45 minutes in Cairo airport, during which he held discussions with Vice President Husni Mubarak.

MINISTER OF STATE GHALI RETURNS TO CAIRO

NC162036Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1958 GMT 16 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 June--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali returned to Cairo from Khartoum today after a 2-week tour of a number of African states.

Upon his arrival at Cairo airport, Minister Ghali said that he had made the tour at the instructions of President Anwar as-Sadat and that he had given the heads of the states he visited personal letters from President as-Sadat. Ghali had visited Sudan, Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Gabon, Zaire, Burundi and Uganda.

SOCIALIST LIBERALS CALL FOR NORMAL RELATIONS WITH USSR

LD161146Y Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 12 Jun 78 p 4 LD

[Excerpts] Mustafa Kamil Murad, leader of the Socialist Liberal Party, has declared that the party will be reorganized. The reorganization will begin by a comprehensive evaluation of the party leadership at various levels and by assigning leadership responsiblities to serious elements within the party.

He said that the party General Secretariat has drawn up a timetable for reevaluating the party leadership and holding elections on all party levels before the end of this year. The leader of the Socialist Liberal Party criticized the government and its party for keeping relations with Moscow in a frozen state. He called for the resumption of normal relations between the two peoples and cooperation in all the fields.

He said that he has asked Dr Mustafa Khalil, first secretary of the [ASU] Central Committee, to allow the Socialist Liberal Party to hold talks with communist trade unions and organizations in the Soviet Union and the socialist countries in order to help restore confidence between the Soviet and Egyptian peoples.

Socialist Liberal Party leader Mustafa Kamil Murad held a press conference last Wednesday, which was attended by representatives of the local press and foreign news agencies and newspapers. At the conference Murad defined the party's attitude toward domestic and national issues. He also replied to journalists' questions regarding the future of political parties' activities in Egypt.

He said that the law of protecting the domestic front and social peace was in fact an amalgamation of various pieces of legislation into one single law and that the party will monitor the implementation of the law on social peace in order to protect the democratic process. The party leader also warned against the excessive application of the law on protecting the internal front.

Mustafa Kamil Murad criticized the government and its party, saying that its biggest mistake is to keep the relations between Cairo and Moscow as they are now. He said: Therefore, I have notified the first secretary of the Central Committee that the Socialist Liberal Party has drawn up a program for holding meetings with the communist parties of Romania, Germany and the Soviet Union. He said that before a decision is taken on the resumption of Egyptian-Soviet relations there should be unofficial meetings between Egyptian deputies and Soviet officials. He said: We do not hate the Soviet Union, but its principles do not suit us. We are ready, however, for a dialog and discussions with it because the Middle East problem cannot be solved without the two superpowers, Russia and the United States.

He added: We have restored our relations with the United States and Western Europe, which were broken. We have also obtained more than $3 billion in aid and loans, and spare parts for Soviet weapons have been manufactured in West European countries. Therefore, we must organize our relations with the Soviet Union.

The Socialist Liberal Party leader criticized the government and its party for not differentiating between the government and its party in not differentiating between the government organs and party organs. Government organs belong to the people and are supposed to serve them. Therefore, the government has abused the democratic experiment in Egypt by making provincial govenors and heads of village and town councils join the government party. These people should only serve the public regardless of the color of the government and its party.

He also said that the minister of information abused his functions when he shut the media doors to other political parties.

NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE

LD161747Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 15 Jun 78 p 1 LD

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat, in his capacity as chairman of the Arab Socialist Union [ASU], has issued a decision appointing 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal, doyen of journalists and chairman of AL-AHRAM's board of management, member of the [ASU] Central Committee. President Anwar as-Sadat also issued a decision appointing Mustafa Muhammad Munji, president of the General Trade Union of War Production Workers, member of the Central Committee.

CAIRO RADIO CITES ATHERTON'S WARNING TO ISRAEL

NC161930Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1810 GMT 16 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Alfred Atherton, the U.S. roving ambassador to the Middle East, today warned Israel that it might be facing its last chance to resume the peace negotiations with Egypt. This came in a speech which Atherton delivered at the International Affairs Council in Los Angeles, California.

Atherton said that the United States is still waiting for Israel's answers to its questions regarding the future of the West Bank of Jordan and Gaza Strip. He expressed hope that the answers will be positive.

PRESS COMMENTS ON ISRAELI REPLY TO U.S. QUESTIONS

NC190730Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0619 GMT 19 Jun 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspapers AL-AHRAM and AL-JUMHURIYAH comment on the Israeli reply to the U.S. questions regarding the West Bank and the Gaza sector after the 5-year autonomy plan proposed by Israeli Prime Minister Begin, and regarding Israel's views concerning the future of 1 million Palestinians living in these areas.

AL-AHRAM says: After a delay of over 2 months, the Israeli cabinet, in a statement characterized by procrastination, announced that in answering the U.S. questions, Israel cannot now determine the future of the West Bank and the Gaza sector at the end of the 5-year autonomy proposed by Begin, and that discussion of this matter may take place at the expiration of the transitional period in the presence of representatives of the inhabitants of these two areas to be elected in accordance with the administrative autonomy law.

AL-AHRAM adds: The Israeli statement said absolutely nothing about the fate of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza sector. It also failed to give any idea as to the possibility of solving the Palestinian problem, which, everyone agrees is the core and essence of the conflict.

This means that Begin still maintains the same position and interpretation of Resolution 242. To the whole world, Resolution 242 means Israeli withdrawal from all fronts.

AL-AHRAM affirms that Begin's attitude constitutes not only a rejection of the opportunity now available for peace but also a defiance of the U.S. position, which clearly and frankly maintains that Israel should withdraw from all fronts and should accept the logical and realistic interpretation of Resolution 242. This further means that Menahem Begin continues to defy the international community and the UN resolutions.

In conclusion, AL-AHRAM says: The Israeli dilly-dallying has added more obstacles to peace, but it will not last long because Begin's reasoning is contrary to the facts of history. All these points will continue to be elements of pressure on Israel until it adjusts to the new facts in our world, whether Begin likes it or not and whether he is in power or not.

Commenting on the same subject, AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Israel yesterday answered the U.S. inquiries about the future of the West Bank and the Gaza sector.

Israel only pretended to answer the first U.S. question regarding the future of the two areas after 5 years of autonomy. It ignored the second question about definition of a permanent status for the West Bank and the Gaza sector after the transitional period. The Israeli Government only said that negotiations will be held on the nature of future relations at the request of any of the parties, and that such negotiations will be held in the presence of representatives of what is called Judaea and Samaria, and Gaza.

AL-JUMHURIYAH emphasizes that the Begin government's reply is another confirmation of Israel's intransigent attitude toward the peace efforts in the area.

AL-JUMHURIYAH concludes: This regrettable position provides further evidence of Begin's determination to pursue a policy rejected by the entire world, including large sectors of the Israeli people and cabinet. Egypt is determined to continue its peace efforts despite Begin's attempts. Egypt will continue on this same road until a just and lasting settlement is achieved, insuring Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and securing the Palestinian people's rights, especially their right to self-determination and their right to establish their state on their own territory.

CAIRO RADIO DISCUSSES AL-JAMASI-CARTER MEETING

NC180655Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] During their meeting in the United States, President Jimmy Carter affirmed to Gen Muhammad al-Jamasi, the deputy prime minister and minister of war and war production, that he has full respect for him not only because of his military qualities but also because he stands by President as-Sadat and supports his peace efforts and his interest in the establishment of just peace in the Middle East.

A responsible Egyptian source has stated that the meeting between Carter and Al-Jamasi indicates U.S. interest at the highest level in General al-Jamasi's visit to the United States. It is reported that the visit opened a new chapter in the ties of cooperation with the United States. General al-Jamasi raised with U.S. officials the question of strengthening future military cooperation between the two countries.

In his talks with U.S. officials General al-Jamasi concentrated on the need for finding a comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem, because Egypt rejects any partial or separate solution with Israel. General al-Jamasi also stressed that the armed forces strongly support President as-Sadat.

U.S. sources said that the meeting between Al-Jamasi and Brzezinski, the U.S. presidential adviser on national security, was very important and dealt with issues of a strategic nature in the Middle East and Africa. It also dealt with the various formulas for providing security to the Arab states and Israel when a peace agreement is reached.

AL-AHRAM CONDEMNS ASSASSINATIONS, PERPETRATORS

NC170840Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0525 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] Today's issue of AL-AHRAM condemns assassinations, which, the paper says, aim at escalating disputes and serve only Israel. AL-AHRAM says: The Arab issue is passing through a delicate stage which demands the mobilization of all efforts to confront all eventualities.

Also, sincere Afab efforts are being exerted to achieve Arab solidarity and overcome disagreements for the sake of the future of all the Arabs. In addition to this, the stage through which the Palestinian issue is passing demands the adoption of a responsible Arab position to bolster and safeguard Palestinian rights. It is at this particular stage that groups of assassins and agents have emerged to carry out carefully timed, suspect acts and assassinations which are aimed only at destroying and shattering the whole Arab position. These assassinations serve only Israel in the end.

The strange thing is that the sides which claim to be revolutionary and talk a lot through the media about struggle, steadfastness, resistance and confrontation of imperialist designs to liquidate the Palestinians are the same sides which are brandishing the weapons of treachery to liquidate the Palestinians.

What is really astonishing is that those who talk about the plot and the need to confront it are themselves the heroes of the plot and are actually implementing it. They talk about Arab unanimity and the unity of the struggling forces, while they are the first to deviate from the Arab ranks. They talk much about the utilization of Arab resources in the service of Arab aims, while they are the ones who squander the resources of their peoples to serve the dreams of notorious leaderships, finance and plan new acts of terrorism, and protect murderers and agents.

Concluding its article, AL-AHRAM says: While the Arab nation is called upon to say something about these new dissenters, the Palestinian leaders in particular are today called upon to expose the agents and criminals and define their attitude to all those who play around with the common Arab fate.

EGYPTIAN, U.S. TEAMS TO SEARCH FOR NUCLEAR FUEL

NC180819Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0657 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 June--The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports today that Egypt and the United States have agreed to form joint working teams of nuclear energy and electricity experts to conduct the first comprehensive field survey of Egyptian deserts for nuclear energy sources. The paper says that these teams will submit reports on the results of their comprehensive survey to President Anwar as-Sadat and U.S. President Jimmy Carter in August.

The paper adds that the Nuclear Energy Organization, the Nuclear Stations Organization, the Geological Survey Organization, and the Remote Detection Center (Markaz al-Istish'ar 'An Bu'd) in the Academy for Scientific and Technological Research will participate in this survey.

AS-SADAT RECEIVES U.S. UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

NC181841Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1828 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 June--President Anwar as-Sadat today received some professors from the University of Pennsylvania and their wives. Education and Scientific Research Minister Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi attended the meeting.

AD-DUSTUR CITES IRAQI SPOKESMAN ON PARTY POLICIES

LD151722Y London AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12-18 Jun 78 p 4 LD

[Excerpts] Baghdad--By Ghazi 'Ayyash--An official Iraqi source has told AD-DUSTUR that the Iraqi Communist Party enjoys full freedom of political activity and that communists are not being persecuted and have not been banned from expreesing their views through their own press and organizations. He also said that the Ba'th Party is not adopting a new attitude toward the National Front and that there has been no change in Iraq's liberation, revolutionary and progressive policy at home, both at the Arab and international levels. The Iraqi source added: "The Ba'th Party wants all the other parties in the National Front to act clearly and frankly and not to hide anything. They must proceed from the premise that the revolution is a reality and a historical fact that cannot be bypassed. The Ba'th Party does not accept a two-faced policy; that is, a policy which is half public and half secret or partly above and partly below the surface.

Asked about the number of communist officers executed because they formed unlawful organizations inside the armed forces as has been repcrted abroad, the source said: "What has been said about the number is unimportant. What is important is the principle. Any attempt at carrying out political activities inside the armed forces other than by the Ba'thists will be dealt with through legal punishment and execution as provided for by Decision Number 1357 issued on 10 December 1971 which is still in force. There will be no relaxation in applying this law. The Revolution Command will not be lenient with anybody who tries to jeopardize its security and safety and the stability of the people. This law applies to all. As everybody knows, there were internal conspiracies in which members of the Ba'th Party Command were accused, such as the conspiracy of Nazim Kazar, and they were executed because they tried to jeopardize the revolution. So why not treat the others the same?"

The Iraqi source added: "No party in the Arab world or in other world revolutions other than the Ba'th Party has given others a chance to take part in political activities and discussions. This is evidence of the party's unequivocal attitude toward the front--a policy which has been confirmed at the party conferences and to which the party command committed itself before and aftertaking over power. Therefore, there is no laxity, slowness or leniency in the party's line, but rather there is strict application and care for the revolution's future in order to confront any ventures or attempts at infiltrating or circumventing the revolution's policy and principles."

This completes the statement of the Iraqi spokesman.

Certain quarters hostile to Iraq tried to link what has happened in Iraqi to certain political and economic developments that have occurred in certain parts of the Arab homeland. The motives behind this deliberate linking are obvious but are refuted by the fact that members of the Iraqi Communist Party have not been persecuted or arrested, nor have they been prevented from expressing their views. This is evident in the article published by the newspaper TARIQ ASH-SHA'B, organ of the Iraqi Communist Party, last Tuesday. The article denotes a retreat in the attitude of the Iraqi Communist Party with regard to what was said in the party's annual report. Political circles said that the article reflects the acute crisis the Iraqi Communist Party is experiencing.

The article in question contained contradictory and misleading statements and a play on words, at which the Iraqi Communist Party excels. At a time when the recent article stressed the need to go to the National Front in case of differences between its parties, the Communist Party ignored this principle by publishing its annual report which criticized the Ba'th Party policy. And at a time when the article accuses reactionary and imperialist forces of distorting facts about the situation in Iraq, the Iraqi Communist Party joined these forces in the campaign hostile to the Arabs.

Obviously, the recent article in TARIQ ASH-SHA'B will fool nobody, especially not the Ba'th Party, which has long experience in underground activities and their methods of misleading the enemy. The party is not so naive as to be deceived by such superficialities. The revolution's security organs and surveillance which foiled such attempts in the past will foil any attempts at sabotage and infiltration in the future. Enemies of the Iraqi revolution have discovered this fact in their conspiratorial activities in the past.

ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES PREPARE FOR STRUGGLE WITH BA'TH

NC181626Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1610 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Beirut, 18 June--It has been learned here today that the Iraqi, Syrian, Jordanian and Lebanese Communist parties, which met in a secret place, have decided to coordinate their policy toward the Iraqi Ba'th Party.

The Iraqi Government had recently executed 21 communists for carrying out hostile political activities.

The news bulletin the Middle East Reporter yesterday said that the Iraqi Communist Party has actually made preparations for an open struggle with the Ba'th Party. It added that a group of the communist party will go underground while another group will remain in the joint National Front to maintain contacts with the Ba'th Party. A third group of the Iraqi Communist Party will be set up either in Bulgaria or Czechoslovakia.

IRAQ CALLS FOR UNIFIED ARAB STAND AT NONALINED CONFERENCE

JN181400Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1255 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 18 June--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs today summoned the heads of Arab diplomatic missions in Iraq to discuss important issues concerning the conference of nonalined foreign ministers to be held in Belgrade on 25 June.

Speaking to INA, the deputy minister of foreign affairs said that he informed the heads of the Arab diplomatic missions of Iraq's belief that the Arabs should adopt a unified stand on Arab issues, especially the Palestine question, in international conferences.

The heads of Arab dipomatic missions expressed their appreciation for Iraq and their agreement with the Iraqi view that they should adopt a unified Arab stand.

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER LEAVES FOR U.S. ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN1611311 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 16 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd bin Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, left Amman today for the United States on an official visit lasting several days during which he will hold talks with senior State and Defense Department officials. This visit takes place within the program of developing and modernizing the Jordanian forces. Ash-Sharif Zayd is accompanied on this visit by a number of responsible officers.

Ash-Sharif Zayd was seen off by the chief of staff, the director of public security and a number of senior officers.

SECURITY CHIEF 'ARABIYAT LEAVES FOR FRG VISIT

JN1816441 Amman JNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 18 June--Staff Maj Gen Ghazi 'Arabiyat, director general of the Public Security Department, left Amman for a visit to the FRG that will last 10 days. The visit comes at the invitation of the FRG Government.

During the visit, 'Arabiyat will hold contacts with officials in the FRG Police Department on the use of modern equipment in laboratory work, telecommunications and in modern traffic techniques. Jordan will seek to improve and modernize its work in these fields and raise the level of efficiency in the police department through the utilization of FRG expertise in this field.

STATE MINISTER IBRAHIM LEAVES AMMAN FOR KHARTOUM

JN1711171 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 17 Jun 8 JN

[Text] Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, left Amman this morning to attend the meetings of the Arab Solidarity Committee which will begin in Khartoum today under Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

During its 2-day meetings, the committee will hear a report from President Numayri on the results of his tour of some Arab states to restore Arab solidarity.

Returns From Khartoum

JN1819031 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpt] Minister of State Hasan Ibrahim returned to Amman this evening after representing Jordan at the meetings of the Arab Solidarity Committee, which opened in Khartoum yesterday.

Hasan Ibrahim said that during the meetings, which were attended by the foreign ministers of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait and the YAR the committee heard a detailed report by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, chairman of the Arab Solidarity Committee, on the outcome of his visits to 15 Arab countries. The committee also discussed the report and reviewed the bases for reviving Arab solidarity.

REPORTAGE ON SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

Salim al-Huss Statement

NC161830Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Following the meetings which he held today, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss replied to a number of questions on the situation in the south.

Asked whether the position expressed in his statements concerning the implications of the withdrawal from the south expresses the position of the government in whole or in part, Prime Minister al-Huss replied: This is the attitude of the Lebanese Government.

On whether there are differences of opinion in the government over this attitude, Prime Minister al-Huss replied: No. All are agreed on this attitude.

Told that reports indicate that the confusion which resulted from the government's attitude emanated from some discrepancies in instructions issued by various quarters, Prime Minister al-Huss said: This is not true. Some sort of misunderstanding arose over the statements issued by the UN Secretary General and the commander of the UNIFIL forces in Lebanon. However, there were no contradictions in the instructions issued by the official quarters. Following the contacts carried out by the Lebanese Foreign Ministry with the UN General Secretariat in New York through Lebanon's permanent representative to the United Nations, our government's attitude, as expressed in my statements, has become clear to the UN General Secretariat in a way which leaves no room for misunderstanding or confusion.

Butrus, Al-Khatib Statements

NC171240Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Security affairs in the country and the situation in the south are still the center of attention at all levels. At 0930 today President Ilyas Sarkis met with Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Defense Fu'ad Butrus and the commander of the Arab deterrent forces, Lt Col Sami al-Khatib. They discussed security affairs in the country and developments in the south.

After the meeting, Minister Butrus was asked whether there was anything new regarding the situation in the south, the government's position in relation to the UN forces and their duties, and the entry of the Lebanese Army to the south. He said: I have nothing to add to the prime minister's statements published this morning. These statements are an expression of the truth. On this occasion I wish we could stop arguing and commenting on this issue because matters are now quite clear here and at the United Nations, at all levels.

Minister Butrus added: From the very beginning, the Lebanese Government requested that the UN forces be deployed in all the areas of their operations without exception, all the way to the southern international border. This is why the command has asked the militarymen in the south to remain in their barracks as soon as the UN forces are deployed in the area. Maintaining security at this stage is the task of the UN forces only. In the future, when the Lebanese Army goes to the south, it will undertake security duties in participation with the UN forces. It will help restore the Lebanese Government's authority. All this will be in accordance with Army Command arrangements, in agreement with the Command of the UN peace-keeping forces. Any comment or statement contrary to what I have just said would be contrary to the truth.

I believe that we should now give priority to the measures which should be taken in implementation of all this. This is the task of the UN forces and the Lebanese authorities. We should allow no exploitation.

On leaving the palace at 1150, Lt Col Sami al-Khatib told reporters that today's meeting was a routine one, adding: I have nothing other than the preoccupations of which you are aware. Contrary to what is being said, we are giving our attention to the south as well as the north. The situation in the south will be settled soon, God willing, now that the difficulties have been ironed out.

On the date of sending the army to the south, he said: Soon, God willing.

Dispute Among Haddad Forces

NC171121Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Excerpt] Beirut, 17 June--Reports received in the Lebanese capital confirm the outbreak of a dispute between Maj Sa'd Haddad, commander of the rightwing forces in southern Lebanon, and the militias, which constitute a large part of his forces.

The dispute broke out when Haddad indicated willingness to comply with Lebanese Government instructions that the military units in the south stay put in their barracks and assume no security duties. Reports about the dispute began arriving in Beirut yesterday with rumors of Sa'd Haddad's assassination or arrest and of armed clashes within the ranks of the militias.

UNIFIL: Conditions Normal

NC170600Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Text] A UNIFIL spokesman has confirmed that normal life prevails in southern Lebanon and that the UN forces were performing their security tasks under very normal conditions. The spokesman denied the rumors carried over Baghdad Radio and other media that several people had been killed or wounded in clashes in southern Lebanon.

Armed Infiltration

NC180730Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0515 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] UN sources in southern Lebanon have said that some armed elements were able to infiltrate into Jwayya area. This has prompted the UN forces to initiate motorized patrols on the Jwayya-Tibnin road to observe the situation.

Lebanese flags were seen raised over buildings at the approaches of Bint Jubayl, and the Lebanese flag was raised at (Tallat Shla'bun) on Qasr al-Hawa-'Ayn Ibil road for the first time following the Israeli withdrawal.

The Senegalese contingent yesterday set up a new roadblock on the 'Aytit-Wadi Jilu road intersection.

The French forces are pulling out from Tyre barracks preparatory to turning them over to the Senegalese contingent at the end of this month, now that the French forces have set up their headquarters in Haris, east of Tyre.

Israeli Gunboats Sighted

NC181951Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1915 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Nine Israeli gunboats were sighted tonight in Lebanese territorial waters off the coast of An-Naqurah-Sidon. Fire was opened on these boats from As-Sarafand-('Atbay) beach. Fishermen were obliged to stop their work.

There has been a noticeable calm in the An-Nabatiyah area along the border. The security reports from the border area indicate that there were no incidents in the area.

LEBANESE UN DELEGATE CLEARS UP MISUNDERSTANDING

NC171241Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 17 Jun 78 NC

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday received a report from Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, Lebanon's permanent delegate at the United Nations. In his report, Tuwayni says that, acting on the Foreign Ministry's instructions, he met with Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and explained to him the official Lebanese position on the south, and on the question of the military groups in the borders in particular. Tuwayni adds that he was able to clear up the problem referred to by the prime minister, and the Lebanese position was completely clarified.

Ambassador Tuwayni also explained to the Arab representatives at the United Nations the true Lebanese position regarding the south and the confusion raised about it. He said there is complete Arab solidarity with Lebanon coupled with Arab understanding of Lebanon's position and the steps it has taken and is taking to insure the return of legitimacy, calm and stability to the south.

Sources have said that the confusion caused by the secretary general's report was a result of bad working and not a result of misunderstanding.

FRANJIYAH ASKS PHALANGISTS TO HAND OVER WEAPONS

JN171845Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1815 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 17 June--Former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah has warned Phalangists in the Zgharta-Az-Zawiyah area not to carry their arms any more. He asked the Phalangists to hand over their weapons and their party identification cards and said that unless they do so they will have only themselves to blame for the consequenses.

Franjiyah, whose son, Tony, was killed along with his family and 30 others at the hand of the Phalangist last Tuesday, has asked the priests of Zgharta to make his demand the topic of their sermons next Sunday.

VOICE OF LEBANON: AL-JUMAYYIL STATEMENT ON NORTH

NC181126Y Voice of Lebanon [Clanestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Statement by Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil to the Lebanese people on the events in northern Lebanon--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] The Phalangists have been clearly asked to restrict their presence to certain areas in Lebanon, as though Lebanon was divided into sectors some of which are controlled by parties and others by groups other than parties.

This is unacceptable logic and the Phalangists naturally reject it. The acceptance or rejection of the demand will not advance or delay the natural progress of the people and society. The presence of the Phalangists in the northern area is determined by the citizens of the north through their affiliation or nonaffiliation with the party. Since the Phalangists or other parties cannot force the people to join them, they also cannot force the people not to join them.

Instead of relying on the people's judgment in a democratic way which would safeguard the unity of the Lebanese ranks and the freedom and rights of citizens, conflict and enmity were sought. This has been apparent since former President Sulayman Franjiyah withdrew from the Lebanese Front and took another course, and since the former president stated at the time that his allies in the front were party leaders each of whom had his own political bureau, while he as a person had to consult some friends. Former President Franjiyah declared the truth: That parties were one thing and persons another. The difference between party and personal activity is that parties are organized, disciplined and efficient.

Nevertheless, the Phalangists and their allies in the Lebanese Front tolerated the unjustified campaign. They believed that the public opinion which opposes such a sudden change would encourage former President Franjiyah to abandon his stand. Unfortunately the opposite happened. It became clear that Franjiyah's withdrawal from the front was a prelude to a campaign against the presence of organized national parties in general and the Phalangists in particular in some northern areas.

This was coupled with the conciliation between Franjiyah and Karami. The Phalangists called for this conciliation a long time ago and it was their dear wish. However, this should have been between the two wings of the country, not between persons. It should have been an instrument to unite the Lebanese, not to establish a political axis against the Phalangists in northern Lebanon in order to change the balance of powers and weaken the front and its parties and strengthen others.

Former President Franjiyah might not have had this in mind and he might have thought that the interest of the homeland could be secured in this way. We don't know about this but we cannot regard Franjiyah's withdrawal from the front as a loss. We regard the war waged against the Phalangists in the north as unfair and unjustified, particularly where lives, freedom and dignity are concerned.

Attempts were made to pull down the emblems and flags of the Phalangists from some of its centers in the Az-Zawiya-Zgharta area and to shut down some of these centers by violence and force. Such attempts are not new to us and are not serious except that they create rancor. We tolerated these incidents for a long time and asked our colleagues in the north to show restraint. We said nothing, declared no objection and continued to deal with former President Franjiyah from a purely nationalist position, disregarding his war against us.

However, the war went beyond this when it began affecting people's livelihood and their lives. This reminded us of the campaign waged against the Phalangists at the beginning of the 2-year war, when the Phalangists were boycotted economically in order to deprive every Phalangist of his livelihood. It is known that hundreds of Phalangists work in factories in Shikka, which is a main base of the Phalangists in the north.

When the economic war or the war of nerves failed to achieve its goal, other methods were used. A number of gunmen assaulted a factory in Shikka, killing several Phalangist workers. The incident created an atmosphere of terror and fear, forcing workers to leave. In spite of such premeditated action, the Phalangists continued to call for calm and for avoiding a confrontation. The sons of Shikka staged a strike demanding punishment of the gunmen. The Phalangists there maintained only moral pressure. Meanwhile the campaign against the Phalangists continued. One of our comrades was killed in Karm as-Saddah. He was an 18-year-old youth who was killed because he boasted of his Phalangist identity card. They killed another comrade in the north in an attempt to close a free clinic run by the Phalangists. Rumors were circulated about lists of Phalangist members to be liquidated. We believed this was for intimidation. We called for restraint and patience. Comrade Jawdi al-Bayi', deputy head of the Phalangist Council in the north, was also assassinated.

The Phalangist Party called for justice by various ways and means, from the highest to the lowest level, and from spiritual and other leaders. The result was silence, indifference and an occasional feeling that nothing could be done. The killer, meanwhile, was running free, challenging everyone. There were further threats of assassinations of Phalangists in northern Lebanon.

We are not seeking to justify the incident in Ihdin or to acquit or convict certain persons. God alone, particularly in Lebanon's current circumstances, is the judge now that the rule of law is gone and justice has been disrupted. We are trying to point out the objective reasons which led to this tragedy in order to work together to avoid future tragedies. We have nothing to add. Does it lack clarity and objectivity?

We ask you if there is a way to avoid a repetition of this, other than stopping the war of attacking the presence of organized national parties in northern Lebanon and foiling attempts to partition Lebanon into sectors controlled by parties and sectors controlled by groups other than parties.

The Phalangist Party has dozens of bases and positions in northern Lebanon performing national and political activity with high spirit. The Phalangist Party has at least 130 centers there. By what logic are the Phalangists asked today to uproot themselves from the north and retreat to the mountains or the coastal area?

The conflict must end immediately. This is the Phalangists' decision and will. The Phalangist Party will spare no effort or sacrifice for this purpose. However, the will of the Phalangists remains incomplete without your will. The will of the Phalangists without giving justice to the victims remains incomplete. The constant retaliation is like a slope toward an abyss. Nothing could check this except law and justice. Perhaps the north needs this today more than at any time before. We believe that the time has come for all the country to rise. We hope that our people in the north, and Zgharta in particular, will be in the vanguard of those bringing maximum pressure for emerging from this whirlpool. Long live Lebanon!

DAMASCUS RADIO: U.S. INFLUENCE IN MIDEAST WANES

JN172020Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The imperialist-Zionist offensive has recently suffered a number of setbacks which have robbed it of its momentum. These failures, however, have not eliminated this offensive's aggressiveness, perseverance and adventurism. The roads which were open to the imperialists and Zionists at the beginning of this offensive have been closed one after the other, so that the efforts of the conspirators have entered into a vicious circle in which they now turn without reaching their coveted aims.

After the October War and at the beginning of the Carter era, the United States was able to gain a marked improvement in its political position, thus reversing a long period of deterioration in U.S.-Arab relations. This deterioration was the result of U.S. bias in favor of Israel on the political, economic and military levels. The United States was able, at the beginning of the Carter administration, to gain some trust from the Arabs when it pretended to look for a new and even-handed policy in the Middle East and to seek a just settlement which would be acceptable to all parties in the region.

But the United States now has lost much of the progress it made in the Middle East. Today the United States is more a source for doubt and accusation than a source of trust and cooperation. The U.S. administration's chance to play a distinctive role in the peace process has disappeared. This is because of its plot to try to impose, capitulation on the Arabs and its maneuvers to exploit the Arabs good intentions in order to force As-Sadat's regime to sign a separate agreement with Israel, and to get away with the crime of arming the Israeli aggressors to the teeth. The United States fell under the illusion that it could decide the issues in the Middle East and monopolize the peace process without the participation of the Arabs, the United Nations and the Soviet Union, which is co-chairman of the Geneva Conference. Thus the United States made a great mistake in evaluating the balance of power and the factors which affect the development in the region. On behalf of the United Nations, Dr Waldheim has judged the capitulation of As-Sadat, which has been and is still supported by Washington, to be a failure and a great mistake. The Soviet Union has rejected and criticized any bilateral settlement and has called for international efforts to force Israel to come to the Geneva Conference and implement the UN resolutions. The Arab states, with the exception of the As-Sadat regime, have rejected Washington's terms for a solution and condemned the clear U.S. bias. It can be said that the United States has failed to gain a distinguished position in the Middle East and has also failed to impose its hegemony over the region. Since As-Sadat joined the anti-Arab ranks, the United States has not achieved any success in its Middle East efforts.

We also find that the Zionist racist entity has not made any fresh progress toward its goals since As-Sadat's visit of capitulation. The isolation of Israel on the international level has begun to stifle Israel. After 91 days of occupation, Israel is (?reluctant) to withdraw from southern Lebanon. After the imbalance introduced by As-Sadat, the military balance between the Arabs and Israel is now witnessing an Arab lead, in which Syria is bearing the heaviest burden in order to establish a strategic balance with Israel. It can be said that the Arab military position is improving, despite the dubious attitude of the brokers in Baghdad and the large gap between the practice and preaching of others.

International public opinion is demanding that Israel withdraw from all occupied Arab territories and restore the national rights of the Arab people of Palestine. As-Sadat's policy of capitulation will not succeed in changing this demand. There is no need to say much about As-Sadat's grovelling position from the local, Arab and international viewpoints. The internal difficulties of the regime are reported even by the papers of his imperialist and Zionist allies. The isolation of As-Sadat in the Arab world is very stifling and increases as he continues on the path of capitulation and bilateral agreements. On the international scene, As-Sadat's regime is scorned as one which has fallen under imperialist domination and which works against the peoples of the world.

PRESS SAYS ISRAELI REPLIES NARROW AS-SADAT'S CHOICES

JN190749Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Jun 78 JN

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Under the headline "The Israeli Answers and the Procession of Settlement," the newspaper Al-BA'TH writes: The Israeli replies to the U.S. questions do not deviate from the formula (?dictated) by the U.S. administration.

As-Sadat has already announced his commitment to the Israeli formula by expressing his readiness to place the Palestinian cause at (?the end) of the negotiations and to start practical steps toward concluding a separate agreement. However, the Israeli replies clearly express the Zionist strategy of expansion and aggression. The Israeli replies further expose the U.S. quiet diplomacy and the U.S. game [words indistinct].

Writing on the same subject under the headline "The Israeli Replies to the U.S. Questions," the newspaper TISHRIN says: There is nothing new in the replies. Nay, they confirm the intransigent Israeli position, which insists on usurping the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, but only propose a new method, namely, [word indistinct] the Palestinian status through self-rule in the next stage. This is in addition to consolidation of the security role for Israel, which in practice means continued Israeli military, political and economic domination.

As Begin has hit back at Washington and Cairo, As-Sadat, in his turn, will not hereafter be able to speak seriously about Begin's plan and the Israeli Government's replies, at least on the propaganda level. This is because the cards have been exposed and As-Sadat's only choice is to conclude a separate agreement under Israeli conditions or to admit the failure of his political course, which resulted from his capitulationist initiative and which dismembered Arab ranks.

AL-ASAD HOLDS TALKS WITH 'ARAFAT, FATAH MEMBERS

JN171257Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1245 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 17 June--at 1130 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, accompanied by Khalid al-Hasan and Muhammad Ghunaym, members of the Fatah Central Committee.

During the meeting, a review was made of the situation in the region, particularly in southern Lebanon. Yasir 'Arafat then explained the results of his recent visits to some other Arab capitals.

LEBANESE RIGHTIST MAJOR SA'D HADDAD CONSIDERED AN OUTLAW

JN171120Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Jun 78 JN

[Text] A responsible source in Damascus has stated that the Syrian Government considers Maj Sa'd Haddad, who has dealt with the Israeli enemy, to be an outlaw and that he can only be treated as such. The source stressed that the report of the UN secretary general and the U.S. State Department that Maj Sa'd Haddad represents the legitimate authorities of Lebanon is contrary to the agreement of the Syrian and Lebanese authorities concerning Major Haddad.

Damascus Radio Comments

JN181500Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] With all revolutionary clarity and pan-Arab purity, Syria has declared that Sa'd Haddad, commander of the armed cliques in southern Lebanon, is nothing but a dealer with the enemy and an outlaw who can be treated as a man wanted for justice and a defendant accused of high treason. The Syrian declaration is in harmony with the assertion of the legitimate authority in Lebanon that neither this outlaw nor any other force can claim to represent the Lebanese authority or usurp legitimacy and move about in its guise.

Syria rejects any dealing with the enemy, for any reason or under any circumstances. Those who deal with the enemy, whether small or big, eventually become traitors to their people and nation, enemies of Lebanon and agents of the enemy.

Sa'd Haddad is only a small replica of much larger forces who are trying to play the game of treason against our nation in the guise of civilization and the game of capitulation in the mold of false civilization. Realizing this, Syria has defined its position toward all such forces with clarity and firmness. It made its declaration to the ruler of Egypt when he walked the road of humiliation to occupied Jerusalem and stretched his hands out to the enemy. The Arab masses have convicted him of high treason for dealing with the enemy and supporting them. What applies to As-Sadat applies to all agents and those who deal with the enemy, large or small, in southern or northern Lebanon, exposed or unseen. Those who conspire against Lebanon and stab it with the weapon of the treacherous enemy have not been satisfied with their treason, but have committed acts of destruction and war against their people and nation.

Syria is one with legitimate Lebanon, with Arab Lebanon, with unified Lebanon, and stands against Lebanon's enemies, the foremost of which is the Zionist enemy and its agents. Syria equally opposes those who injure Lebanon and plot against it. Syria is one with the Palestinian resistance and against its enemies, the foremost of which is the Zionist enemy and those conspiring against the people of Palestine and their cause. Syria is one with the Arab people, because it is the voice expressing their will and the picture depicting their struggle. It will remain so forever, because this is its destiny and pan-Arab duty.

ALGERIA

SOMALI PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY LEAVES ALGIERS

LD181635Y Algiers APS in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpt] Algiers, 18 June--Member of the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party, Col Abdelkader El Hadj Mohammed, left Algiers this afternoon at the end of a few days' visit to Algeria. Colonel El Hadj Mohammed, who is the head of the party's Office for Organizational Affairs, visited Algeria at the head of an important delegation to deliver a message from Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre to President Houari Boumediene and to hold talks with FLN officials.

Before leaving, Col Abdelkader El Hadj Mohammed said that his talks with President Boumediene dealt with the current conditions in Africa and the Arab world. He also spoke of the desire of both sides to develop relations between their two parties.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI ARRIVES IN BULGARIA FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

For Sofia Domestic Service and BTA coverage of the official visit of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, secretary general of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, see the 19 June and subsequent issues of the Bulgaria section of the Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

MAURITANIAN MINISTER ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI

LD172037Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Brother Abdallah Ould Boye, minister of party affairs in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, arrived in Tripoli this evening for a few days visit to the Jamahiriyah.

The Mauritanian minister was received at Tripoli International Airport by Brother Muhammad at-Tahir al-Mahjub, secretary for labor and civil service; a delegate from the Arab administration in the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs; and the Mauritanian charge d'affaires in the Jamahiriyah.

Brother Ould Boye told JANA that during his visit he will hold talks with officials in the Jamahiriyah concerning consolidation of cooperation and brotherly relations between the Mauritanian and Libyan Arab peoples.

TOGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS VISIT TO JAMAHIRIYAH

LD161334Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Edem Kodjo, Togolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, left Tripoli this morning at the end of his brief visit to the Jamahiriyah. During the visit, he gave Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi a message from Togolese President General Eyadema expressing Eyadema's admiration for the brother colonel and his desire to develop relations between the two countries.

Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki met the Togolese minister yesterday and discussed bilateral relations and ways of developing cooperation between the Jamahiriyah and Togo in all fields.

NIGER FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH AL-QADHDHAFI, DEPARTS

LD161700Y Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli--Niger Foreign Minister Moumouni Djermakoye left Tripoli at noon today, after conveying a verbal message to Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi from Lt Col Seyni Kountche, president of the Republic of Niger, concerning the situation in Chad. He also had a meeting with Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary, and discussed bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and Niger and the means of developing them.

MOROCCO

TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTER MAKES STOPOVER IN CASABLANCA

LD171917Y Rabat MAP in French 1100 GMT 17 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Casablanca--Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Nouira made a stopover at Casablanca-Nouaceur Airport yesterday.

The prime minister was accompanied by a large delegation and stopped for 1 hour before going on to Paris.

Hedi Nouira expressed his pleasure at this stopover which gave him the opportunity of transmitting President Bourguiba's and the Tunisian people's greetings to King Hassan II and the fraternal Moroccan people.

This is also an opportunity for me, he said, to express my appreciation and admiration for Morocco's achievements in every field, which is not unexpected from authentic people.

Asked about the purpose of his visit to Senegal, the Tunisian prime minister replied that his visit was intended mainly to get a better understanding of bilateral problems in the field of technical cooperation, but problems relating to South-West Africa were also discussed.

Replying to a question on Tunisia's position regarding the recent appeal made by Colonel ad-Qadhdhafi in Algiers for the formation of a tripartite union comprising Algeria, Tunisia and Libya, Hedi Nouira stressed that the AL-AMAL editorial reflects his country's position, namely that the necessary facts on which to base the union are not assembled as yet, owing to the fact that each of these countries has its own vision, its own economic and social system and its own policy regarding international problems.

In Tunisia's opinion, unity must be built on firm foundations which have sprung from considered action. The building of authentic cooperation is the primary task. Above all else, this union must not be the result of improvised action.

As for the performance of the Tunisian football team at the Mundial 1978 in Argentina, Hedi Nouira said that it reflected Tunisia's real image.

SUDAN

ARAB SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE MEETS IN KHARTOUM

LD1819347 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] The Arab Solidarity Committee, chaired by Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the republic, concluded its second meeting today in Friendship Hall, Khartoum. The committee has issued the following statements:

The Arab Solidarity Committee held its second meeting in Khartoum under the chairmanship of His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of Sudan. The committee's members are the foreign ministers of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the Yemen Arab Republic and the secretary general of the League of Arab States. The committee held its session between the 17th and 18th of this month.

The committee heard a report on the visits made by the chairman of the committee to 15 Arab states. The following resolutions were approved:

1. The chairman of the solidarity committee shall continue his valued efforts, placing emphasis on the need to hold bilateral contacts between the member states of the solidarity committee and the Arab parties concerned in order to adopt stands according to the principles defined by the committee in harmony with the decisions of [words indistinct] and prepare the way for the achievement of Arab solidarity. Each state shall convey the results of its contacts to the chairman of the solidarity committee.

2. The solidarity committee shall hold its third meeting at the date and place fixed by the chairman of the committee to study the results of the contacts referred to in the previous paragraph.

3. The Arab Solidarity Committee shall draw up a complete draft working plan to confront the challenges facing our Arab nation in the next stage and define the tasks in terms of national interests.

4. The chairman of the solidarity committee may convene a meeting of the committee at the level of heads of state to review the work of the committee and define the steps or moves for the next phase.

KUWAITI, JORDANIAN MINISTERS LEAVE KHARTOUM

JN181427Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1423 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 18 June--Kuwait's minister of foreign affairs and Jordan's minister of state for foreign affairs left Khartoum this afternoon. They had attended the conference of the Arab Solidarity Committee which concluded its meetings today under President Numayri.

SUDANESE SOCIALIST DELEGATION LEAVES FOR BELGRADE

JN181425Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1414 GMT 18 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 18 June--A delegation of the Sudanese Socialist Federation led by Ahmad 'Abd al-Halim, secretary general of the higher departments, left for Belgrade today to attend the 11th Conference of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

EGYPTIAN MINISTER OF STATE STOPS OVER IN KHARTOUM

LD161634Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, stopped in Khartoum this morning on his way home from a tour of eight African states. He was received by Francis Deng, Sudanese minister of state for foreign affairs, and Sa'd Badawi al-Fatatri, Egyptian ambassador in Khartoum.

The officials discussed the coordination of Sudanese and Egyptian diplomacy before the OAU summit conference to be held in Khartoum next month and the conference of the foreign ministers of nonalined countries which will be held in Belgrade.

Butrus Ghali later left for Cairo.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO FRONT GUERRILLAS ATTACK ORE TRAIN

PA181445Y Paris AFP in English 1420 GMT 18 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, June 18 (AFP)--POLISARIO Front guerrillas attacked an iron ore train Friday night in the desert between the Zouerate mining complex and the port of Nouadhibou, killing one member of a Mauritanian Army escort patrol and wounding another, a reliable source said here today.

One of the four locomotives pulling the train was seriously damaged, the source said, but there were no other casualties.

The POLISARIO Front attackers, whose number was unknown, fired on the train from afar and did not attempt to board it, the source said.

The attack on the ore train, which occured after nigntfall 180 kms (110 miles) from Nouadhibou, was the first since April 9. Several times in recent weeks Mauritanian soldiers have either intercepted Saharan columns before they reached the railway line or spotted tracks of their vehicles in time to temporarily suspend train traffic.

SDAR Issues Statement

LD190633Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 18 Jun 78 LD

[Text] A Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Defense Ministry statement says that Saharan fighters struck at vital, strategic Mauritanian positions--that is, the train carrying phosphates between Zouirat and Nouadhibou, on 12 and 13 June. On 12 June, the revolutionaries placed explosive charges which destroyed a part of the railway line; on 13 June, liberation units east of Bulanwar attacked the train which was guarded by a strong Mauritanian force. After a 3-hour clash, the revolutionaries burned a large portion of the train, inflicting serious personnel and materiel losses on the Mauritanian forces.

BEGIN RECEIVES MAJORITY ON ANSWERS TO U.S. QUESTIONS

Details of Deliberations

TA181535Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Jun 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Israel's answers to the U.S. questions were passed to the United States this afternoon. The formula was passed to the United States through both the foreign minister and Ambassador Dinitz at the end of the cabinet meeting. Here is a report by political correspondent Yosie La'or: [begin recording]

At the end of a more than 4-hour long cabinet session, the majority voted for Prime Minister Menahem Begin's formula for the answers. Begin brought the cabinet the short formula, which includes three articles, on a half page typed in Hebrew. During the session, several alterations were made to the formula. The prime minister, the foreign minister, the ministers from the Liberal Party, from La'am, from the MAFDAL and Herut ministers Levi and Landau voted for the formula. Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman voted against it, as did the four DMC ministers.

After most of the ministers expressed themselves, and after Begin--following the ministers' words--corrected the formula he had brought to the session, the vote was held. At the end of the vote, the short English version was formulated by the prime minister, the foreign minister, the cabinet's legal adviser and the prime minister's adviser for foreign information, Harry Horowitz. The content of the formula was put under strict secrecy until 1830 so it could be forwarded to the U.S. administration.

It has been learned that the formula includes quite a few elements from Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's draft. The formula also includes elements from the other drafts drawn up last week.

The answers have already been passed to the United States by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, who passed it to U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis. Also, just as the cabinet session ended, the formula was telexed to Israel's ambassador in Washington, Simha Dinitz.

Thus, after deliberations which lasted about a month, the government today concluded its answers to the United States. The defense minister, who objected to the formula, was the first to leave the meeting and hurried to leave the prime minister's office. The DMC ministers who objected will probably publish an announcement tonight.

The majority opinion will be brought to the Knesset tomorrow. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will make a statement which will be followed by a political discussion. Tomorrow, the question of how the DMC will vote will also be discussed, i.e., whether it will approve the cabinet's statement. According to the coalition agreement, the DMC has the right to abstain. It will probably do so. [end recording]

Answers Read

TA181713Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 18 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Several minutes ago, the Israeli answers to the U.S. questions regarding the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region were published in Jerusalem. The government's decision was read to political correspondents by Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or. [begin recording]

The Government of Israel regards as essential the continuation of the process of conducting talks between itself and its neighbors in an attempt to reach a peace agreement. The Government of Israel expresses its consent that 5 years after the implementation of the administrative autonomy in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region, which will come into force when peace is established, the nature of the future relations between the parties will be discussed and agreed upon, should any party request it.

The framework for holding this discussion is negotiations between the parties, with the incorporation of the representation of the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region, which is elected in accordance with the autonomy plan, in an attempt to bring an agreement between them. [end recording]

Jerusalem Reviews Vote

TA181735Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Jun 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Excerpt] The government is prepared to discuss the future relationships. This is the prime minister's formula, which has gained the support of 13 additional ministers. Political correspondent Shalom Quital has more on the government's deliberations: [begin recording]

The formula that is now on U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance's desk says that the Government of Israel agrees that after 5 years of autonomy the nature of the future relationships between the parties, if any party demands it, will be discussed and agreed upon. The new political term is "the nature of the future relationships," a term coined by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan in a formula he formally presented during the cabinet session last week.

The discussion was on whether to use the concept of permanent status, or in good Hebrew, an agreement on a permanent status for Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region at the end of 5 years. That is what the defense minister proposed, and the DMC supported him. However, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman found himself in the minority today. He expressed his anger during the session and after it.

Fourteen ministers voted for the prime minister's formula, which, to repeat, is close to Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan's proposed formula. Four voted for the DMC's proposal--they were the DMC ministers. 'Ezer Weizman voted against both: against that of the prime minister and the foreign minister which indicates the nature of the future relationships, and against the DMC's, which uses the expression "permanent status." [end recording]

Reactions to Answers

TA181811Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Jun 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] A first reaction to the central political issue: With the publication of the government's decision, correspondent Sara Frankel sought the reaction of the chairman of the Labor Party, MK Shim'on Peres. [begin recording]

[Peres] From a first reading, I would point out the following: first, it turns the plan for final autonomy into an interim, transitory agreement, and there is no point in concealing this; second, it obviously does not include an answer to the questions presented to Israel, because here there is reference to the nature of the relationships while the question was about a permanent agreement. The article about who will participate in the decision making is vague.

In my opinion, this decision is no more than a paper block to the formation of a Palestinian state, because if autonomy is established, and its entire hope will be based on a written article, it would not stop the establishment of a Palestinian state. On the other hand, it does not have the components necessary to open the way to negotiations.

In my evaluation, this answer invited more questions. This time I am not necessarily talking as a member of the opposition, because the opposition within the cabinet was quite decided up until the vote, even more than the opposition outside the cabinet and in my opinion we are entering a continuation of the argument--I do not want to say the confrontation--both with the United States and with the world.

[Frankel] Which proposal, or which formula did you support?

[Peres] I would have prevented the question by simply and clearly declaring that UN Security Council Resolution No 242 refers to the eastern front as well. This is the piercing question.

[Frankel] This is not what Israel had been asked to reply on, you said so before.

[Peres] In my opinion, Israel asked for these questions. If we had given the former answer, we would have spared ourselves the additional questions, because the present answer also invites a long line of questions. I would have said clearly that the Palestinians will take part in determining their own future as one of the partners, not as the sole partner, because it was clear to me that the two questions presented by the United States were just part of a caravan of camels, after which there are more camels with humps of questions.

[Frankel] You have said all along that you would have supported the autonomy plan if there was a plan for an interim arrangement. You said previously that it emerges from the cabinet's decision that the autonomy is indeed an interim arrangement, but you still object to the cabinet's decision?

[Peres] Yes, an interim arrangement without a Jordanian component means that it is an interim arrangement which opens all doors to the PLO and the Palestinians.

[Frankel] That means, simply you will support a plan or a government decision that ties every plan whatsoever to Jordan--in simple words.

[Peres] No. These are your simple words. I would have made an autonomy plan to prevent the development of a PLO-like view and a PLO-like hope in Judaea and Samaria.

[Frankel] How would you do that?

[Peres] By the only alternative there is to the PLO, that is the Jordanian cause. I would also say, immediately and today, so that Jordan can enter that in the permanent solution there be an element of Resolution No 242, as the foreign minister, for example, proposed, even though he gave his own interpretation to Resolution No 242. By objecting to it, we are in fact blocking Jordan's way and opening the way for the alternative to Jordan, which is clear and explicit.

[Frankel] By Resolution No 242, do you mean a territorial compromise?

[Peres] Yes.

[Frankel] Then, why is it that there was unanimity in the Labor Party's office 10 days ago that today there is no room for talking about a territorial compromise, because today it is not relevant?

[Peres] The word is "today." Even when we talked about a territorial compromise, we said that it would be the next stage. As the first stage we are not objecting to a federal solution or a temporary solution.

[Frankel] In conclusion, Mr Peres, do you think that the cabinet's decision is not good?

[Peres] I think that the government's decision does not answer the questions.

[Frankel] Thank you. [end recording]

That was MK Shim'on Peres with a first reaction.

We have heard that the DMC decided to submit its own proposal. Only the four DMC ministers voted for this suggestion. The main article in the DMC proposal says: The Government of Israel announces its agreement that within the framework of the peace agreement it will be determined that if at the end of the first 5 years of the administrative autonomy, any party wants to question the permanent status of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region, the issue will be determined.

In a discussion with correspondent Razi Barqay, Deputy Prime Minister Prof Yiga'el Yadin says that the DMC proposal could have made contacts with the United States easier.
[begin recording]

[Barqay] Professor Yadin, you are saying that two proposals, yours and that of the majority, ultimately grew very close. Why did you decide to submit your own plan anyway?

[Yadin] When the vote was not on who is for and who is against, but on who is for the majority proposal and who is for our proposal, we did not vote for the majority proposal but for our own. The reason is that although there was some closeness between the two, on a rather important point there is a difference. The majority proposal said that at the end of 5 years etc. etc. etc. the future relationships between the parties will be determined. We thought that in the spirit of the proposals that were submitted and also considering the character of the peace and autonomy plan, which says that at the end of 5 years there will be a review, it can be said that the final status, the permanent status or the status will be determined. In any case--we agreed on this in advance--the third article about the mechanism, which is, let us say, in the process of being determined, notes that any such mechanism must be agreed on by all the parties. We were also in favor of an elected or appropriate representation of the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza being incorporated in that agreement.

[Barqay] That is, the main difference is in the formulation. The government formula says "the future relationships will be determined" and you are talking about a permanent status?

[Yadin] That is correct.

[Barqay] The question is, is this not just a semantic difference?

[Yadin] Look, one can say at this stage that many of these things seem semantic. We are still not talking about negotiations with the Egyptians, and it would be a good thing if everybody knew this. We are hoping that the answers to the United States--and we could understand things like this--might bring the Egyptians to renew the negotiations they have stopped. For this reason, on the negotiations per se, even in the basic proposal there is a reference that each party will have to agree to. We think that our answer on this point is more in the spirit of the U.S. questions. Others who thought about it said that this should not be said, even though it is self evident, because when we say "everything is negotiatble" [it is obvious] but it would be preferable to define it this way. You should ask those who made the other proposal what the difference is.

[Barqay] So if the difference is one in formulation, not in spirit or content, why create the impression that the government does not have one line, why submit a separate proposal?

[Yadin] You are saying that these are differences in formulation and not in spirit. I would not have defined it that way. It is between the essence and the formulation, because for the moment we are still not negotiating. I think that the other party believes it would be easier to start talking with us if we said that after 5 years--we say after 5 years, it may say within 5 years--the permanent status will be determined. I do not see any point in not saying this. I think that it is between essence and formulation.

[Barqay] Professor Yadin, isn't one of the aims in presenting a separate proposal from the DMC, to raise the prestige of the party, or your movement?

[Yadin] God forbid. All the cabinet deliberations and the criticism levelled at me today and yesterday and tomorrow is that I am not taking enough advantage of our discussions in the government to benefit the DMC or not. [sentence as heard] We, as cabinet ministers, have a tremendous responsibility and our major and central problem is to say what we think. We were unanimous, all the DMC ministers, without any difference etc., that we must submit this proposal to this session as it is and since the vote was based on who is in favor of this fomula and who is for that formula, I think it was the right way.

[Barqay] Tomorrow, will you abstain in the Knesset vote?

[Yadin] If the cabinet brings the proposal to the Knesset tomorrow, for the Knesset to approve the cabinet's formula for the answers, I will propose to the faction and to the DMC executive, which will convene tomorrow, to abstain.

[Barqay] Professor Yadin, was a crisis in the government prevented?

[Yadin] Look, there were all kinds of rumors about a crisis, and not necessarily... or in the affinity between one minister and another, etc. etc., and if there was the problem of crisis at all and if it was prevented. I believe that today's vote by a large part of the minister eased, I would say, the internal problem in the government. I want to say what I said last week, that for the first time since we entered the cabinet, on this matter and perhaps in extension the whole treatment of the continuation of the negotiations the coalition, apart from the DMC, is no longer monolithic. [end recording]

How will the decision be accepted in the United States? In the Tel Aviv studio of the Evening Newsreel Committee, Mk Zalman Shoval.

[Announcer] Good evening.

[Shoval] Good evening. [Question] If I am not mistaken, you returned from the United States only yesterday.

[Shoval] Correct.

[Question] In your knowledgeable opinion, will the administration be statisfied with the answers the government decided on today?

[Shoval] I certainly cannot speak on behalf of the U.S. administration.

[Question] Well, according to the formulas with which you are familiar, the U.S. formula as a possible reply and the Israeli formula accepted today?

[Answer] It seems to me that the decision as proposed by the prime minister and the foreign minister definitely responds to the expectations of the U.S. public and perhaps even to those of the U.S. administration. I see great importance in that, perhaps the major importance in the Israeli cabinet's decision, because we are struggling for U.S. public opinion, as well as that of the entire world, even if the peace process is stopped. If it does stop, it is very important that it be known that it was not stopped because of us.

It seems to me that in this respect today's decision is a good one. One must also remember that the United States has announced that it regards the Israeli autonomy plan as the best basis for peace. There are opinions on one side and the other, but on the visit to the United States you mentioned, I was told by high-ranking personalities in the U.S. administration--they hinted to me--that they might very well agree with the opinion voiced in Israel that the transfer of the IDF to certain permanent bases in Judaea and Samaria might be regarded as an Israeli application of Resolution No 242. As is known, the present Government of Israel accepts Resolution No 242 as the basis for negotiations with Egypt, with Jordan, with Syria and with Lebanon.

[Announcer] Yes. Shalom Qital.

[Qital] Mr Shoval, you mention Resolution No 242. The decision ultimately accepted by the government does not mention Resolution No 242, and you emphasize the importance of this resolution in the eyes of the United States. To the best of my knowledge, Mr Dayan had originally very much wanted to include Resolution No 242 or at least mention it in the formula of the decision. But in the end it was not accepted. Will this not cause harm?

[Shoval] No, I do not think so, because several weeks ago the Government of Israel publicized its approach to Resolution No 242 and its acceptance of the principles in Resolution No 242, which I just mentioned. In fact, the nature of 242 is a declaration of principles and as long as the Government of Israel, the State of Israel, accepts this resolution as a declaration of principles, I think there is no need. Perhaps it would have been good if they had repeated it, but I do not think that it harms.

Allow me to add two or three things. In today's decision there are several important principles; that is, we mention once again that the autonomy will be established after peace is maintained, that is, after reaching peace. Signing peace treaties between us and the Arab countries is a precondition for the establishment of autonomy. The second thing is indeed that the nature of the future relationships will be decided in negotiations among all the parties, including the Israeli Arabs and the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Another thing is that with all the importance of the Israeli Government's responses, it seems to me that the real answer which is important and which we are still expecting is the Egyptian Government's answer. In other words, if the Egyptian Government will ultimately be prepared not only to renew the negotiations for peace that it has terminated, but also to reach peace treaties with us. On this issue we still lack an answer and on this issue there is great importance to the approach of the United States, which expected us to answer but has still not exerted pressures on the Egyptian Government regarding the answers we are awaiting from President as-Sadat.

[Question] Mr Shoval, several minutes ago we heard Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin explaining why, in his opinion, the term "permanent status" regarding Judaea and Samaria is preferable to "the nature of future relationships." Why, in your opinion, is the term "the nature of the future relationships" preferable to "permanent status"? Ultimately the United States, as far as is known, would prefer to see the simple term "permanent status." Why is it not good while the term "the nature of the future relationships" is good?

[Shoval] I think that a permanent situation or a permanent status is not a good term, not from Israel's point of view. In all the meetings I had in the United States I emphasized that also from the U.S. point of view it is a political and psychological error to demand that the two parties determine today exactly what the status will be after 5 years. A permanent status should not be discussed today, and the principle of review, of reassessment, of reexamination after 5 years in the Israeli autonomy plan, this approach is correct and in my opinion is also the only one that might be accepted. If we are talking today about the future of the relations, we are talking about the nature of the relationships between the autonomy and the State of Israel, we are not talking about this or that status of the autonomy itself. We are talking about the future of the relationships between the autonomy and the State of Israel, and perhaps also between the autonomy and Jordan. We are not talking about an internal situation or status.

[Announcer] Mk Zalman Shoval, we thank you very much.

[Announcer] MK Abba Eban is with us in the Tel Aviv studio to evaluate the cabinet decision, but before that we want to go over to Washington. Correspondent Eli Nissan is on the telephone from Washington. Maybe he can bring us up to date with the first reaction, if there has been any yet, from the United States. Eli.

[Nissan] I phoned the State Department spokesman's office several times and the reply I was given was that the Israeli cabinet's decision had not yet been received. About a quarter of an hour ago the duty officer at the spokesman's office phoned me and asked me for a "tip." That is, he asked me to tell him, unofficially, what was the text passed by the Cabinet of Israel. I am still waiting for a phone call from the spokesman's office. For the moment, so I was told, a team of Middle East experts is sitting in the State Department and they are expecting to study the text of the Israeli decision as soon as it is received.

I also phoned Ambassador Dinitz' home and from there I learned that he, too, has not yet officially received the text of the decision and has still not even received directives as to how and when to report the text of the decision, when it is made. That is, at this stage I can say that the U.S. Government still does not know, officially, what the Cabinet of Israel has decided. Over to you.

[Announcer] From this it follows that there is, of course, no U.S. reaction.

[Announcer] Now let us turn to Mr Abba Eban.

[Eban] Good evening.

[Question] In your opinion, will this decision be enough to improve the understanding with the United States?

[Eban] I am afraid not. If there were cabinet members who expressed reservations about this conclusion, there are even more people like me who think that all the formulas which were brought up in the cabinet lacked something.

They lack something because they do not include a willingness in principle to do what should be done and what every previous Israeli Government would have been ready to do: to agree that Resolution No 242, including the withdrawal clause, applies also to part of the territories in Judaea and Samaria.

[Question] We did not hear about that just now.

[Eban] The fact that the United States does not ask clever questions does not force us to give unclever answers. If we had said....

[Question] But a good student always answers the question....

[Eban] The permanent status of these territories should be guided by the principle of a territorial compromise. Believe me, this would have made unnecessary any need to answer such subtle questions. I would have replied that I was ready to determine the principle which will guide and determine the status of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza now. Here you are not right, two authorized representatives of the U.S. administration said that the key to renewing the negotiations impetus is an Israeli willingness to accept the principle of withdrawal, not from all the territories, but from territories in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Even though I level bitter criticism at some points of U.S. policy, I think that this evaluation is correct. Well then, in my opinion, the answer should have been based on determining a status for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza which is based on Resolution No 242. This would have insured a territorial compromise, a chance for peace and a defense of the Jewish character of the State of Israel.

[Question] Then you may be at least satisfied with the answer to the question of the mechanism which will determine this issue of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region together with the cooperation of the representation of the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, which will be elected in accordance with the autonomy plan. This is the formula of the government's decision.

[Eban] Yes, I think one should add to it mainly the Government of Jordan. Those of us who think that the political fate of the inhabitants of these territories is tied to the State of Jordan or to a Jordanian-Palestinian country would have added both Jordan and the elected representatives of the Judaea, Samaria and Gaza Arabs to any consultation of this sort. I do not think that you can break the freeze without determining this difficult, delicate yet inevitable principle of whether we are denying the option of a territorial partition while maintaining IDF forces in those places where they must stay for security reasons. I would like to emphasize that without this statement of the willingness to give up certain territories west of the Jordan River, I do not think there is a way to renew the negotiations on a long term.

[Question] One final question. There were hints that following the Israeli answers the U.S. would ask for additional clarifications. What questions do you expect, if you are expecting any?

[Eban] I am afraid that there are certain moves in the United States toward not only presenting questions, but also toward proposing working papers or U.S. proposals. All I can say is that I doubt whether these questions and answers are the end of the contacts between the United States and Israel, and I think that even though I could not say that a willingness to make territorial concessions would necessitate an Arab preparedness, there is no question that accepting the principle of Resolution No 242 in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, including the principle of withdrawal, would have insured coordination between us and the United States and would thus have created a drastic improvement in our international position and our stance in public opinion.

[Announcer] Mk Abba Eban, we thank you very much.

Weizman Upset by Decision

TA182101Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Jun 78 TA

[Excerpt] With me at the studio is political correspondent Elimelekh Ram. Elimelekh, to the best of your knowledge, how did the defense minister act today during the decision making in the cabinet?

[Answer] I have learned that according to a request from the DMC ministers there was a recess for consultations during the cabinet session. During that recess, 'Ezer Weizman attacked the Dayan plan which, in his opinion, is the plan or the answer which was ultimately accepted during the cabinet session. He asked a simple question: Why did you delay the foreign minister's proposal for a whole week and what happened to make that proposal suddenly acceptable to you? He said also, and this is a quote: I will be happy if the United States and the Egyptians accept this plan.

During the vote, or before the vote on the proposals, Interior Minister Burg said that according to procedure, such a vote is not held on who votes against, but rather every person votes for his own proposal. 'Ezer Weizman requested that despite that procedure, despite that custom, he wished to vote against both proposals and requested that that vote be taken down in the minutes.

[Question] As you have reported, he left angrily at the end of the cabinet session?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. However the question remains, and I am also interested in that question: Why did 'Ezer Weizman not, in fact, vote for the DMC proposal?

[Question] Which was close to his own proposal?

[Answer] Close, very close. Well, I was told that in fact Weizman did not want to head a bloc that is not a Likud bloc. He claims that creating such a bloc obviates drawing conclusions, which he did not want to do. In the future, so I was told by people close to 'Ezer Weizman, the defense minister will concentrate on work in the Defense Ministry and will continue to fight for his opinions.

It is worthwhile to point out one other thing. In fact, what happened here? Was 'Ezer not prepared for such a decision? Well, it was reported that, on the basis of the talks he had on Friday and this morning with the prime minister, he got the impression that the prime minister was going to submit a proposal in the spirit of changes in the status, and this is what he expected. When he heard the proposal, when he heard that the proposal in fact--in his opinion--was similar to Dayan's proposal, he was amazed and then what happened indeed happened.

Dayan Interviewed on Replies

TA181931Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1907 GMT 18 Jun 78 TA

[Text] In today's cabinet session the support for the prime minister's formula defeated the support for the DMC's formula. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan also supported Mr Begin's formula regarding the answers that should be given to the United States about the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. Moshe Dayan is with us in our Tel Aviv studio and he is interviewed by Dan Raviv on the government's decision and on the government's situation following that decision.

Good evening, Mr Foreign Minister. The question is whether we have given a yes or a no to the United States. That is, in your opinion, will the United States be satisfied with the answer and how will it influence our relationships with the United States?

[Answer] I think that the United States, if and when it receives the verbal explanation in addition to the written answer which has already been submitted, it will certainly regard it as an appropriate and clear answer specifying Israel's position. Whether it will be satisfied with the content of the position is another question. Judging the U.S. reaction on Mr Atherton's latest words, as well as on previous remarks made by Mr Saunders, then the Israeli position is not identical to that of the U.S. administration.

[Question] In other words, you are assuming that the U.S. administration will not be pleased with the answer to the questions.

[Answer] Excuse me. I assume that the U.S. administration knows now, has known in the past and does not expect in the future that Israel will accept its position. It asked the Israeli Cabinet about the position of the Israeli Cabinet, and I think that it will receive a clear and simple reply to the question: What is the Israeli Cabinet's position regarding the questions the U.S. administration presented. There is no saying "amen" or "yes" after Mr Atherton's position.

[Question] After submitting the Israeli answer, Mr Dayan, what do you suppose the next step will be?

[Answer] I cannot say with certainty. There will surely have to be certain verbal clarifications. However, the major question is whether the president of Egypt, As-Sadat, is prepared to enter negotiations for peace between Israel and Egypt with other, additional Arab elements regarding Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Region as well as the Sinai. That is, two peace agreements: one between Egypt and Israel, and the second between Judaea and Samaria (what they call the West Bank) and Israel. This is the question: whether they are prepared to enter negotiations and whether President As-Sadat regards himself as an authority on this matter.

[Question] What is your own evaluation, Mr Dayan? After this move, will President As-Sadat say yes to entering negotiations?

[Answer] I do not think that his answer depends on this question. Perhaps if we had given an answer he would have wanted--that we accept his position which says that Israel is prepared for a total withdrawal from the territories which he calls the Arab, conquered territories and that we agree to give the right to self-determination, including the establishment of a Palestinian state--he might have entered negotiations more easily. This is not the Israeli Government's reply.

But, this is also not the question we were asked by the United States. We gave the United States answers to the question we were asked, namely: what will happen after 5 years of administrative autonomy? Will Israel be ready to arrive at a determination? The question was also on what, on which issue the determination would be made. Would it be on the status of the territory as the DMC proposed, or, as the cabinet decided, on the status of the territory as it is defined in the proposal for administrative autonomy and that it is not necessary to determine or discuss this, but rather, to discuss the future relations between the parties. Where there is reference here to the parties, the reference is to Jordan, to the autonomy and to Israel--those bodies included in the autonomy proposal.

[Question] Mr Dayan, UN Security Council Resolution No 242 is not mentioned in the accepted formula. Is this on purpose? I suppose it is, and if so, what is the meaning of the fact that it was not included?

[Answer] It was not included because we were not asked about that. We said, and I repeat here in the clearest way: the Israeli Government accepts Resolution No 242 as a basis for negotiations with reference to the Jordanian front as well. This has been said to the United States. We have also said that our interpretation, our view, is that we regard the application of the administrative autonomy as an appropriate realization of Resolution No 242, including the article about the withdrawal from territories that were captured during the 1967 war.

[Question] Among other things, it has been said by our reporters that Dayan's line won in the government. Is that really so?

[Answer] I am at one with that decision which, partly--in that part which I mentioned--said that what should be discussed after 5 years is not the status of the territory, because this can be changed in accordance with what had been said in the actual proposal for the administrative autonomy, where it said that each party has the right to propose changes in the principles. Rather, the reference is to the system of relationships between the parties, the parties which are included in that proposal, which are: Jordan, Israel and the Arabs from the territories. With that part I agree, as well as with the other parts which say that there is no need for further ratification--as a certain U.S. proposal to bring about a referendum suggested--but that it is sufficient for the elected organizations of the Arabs in general--I would like to say that when I heard Mr Peres' words, when the reference is to parties in this contect, in other words--in the context of between whom the negotiations will take place--parties includes Egypt, first and foremost Egypt, and Jordan and representatives of the Arabs from the territories and Israel--that they should reach an agreement on this issue.

[Question] Mr Dayan, there is no doubt that the discussion, the deliberations were important, and the defense minister, a senior minister in the cabinet, voted against the decision, or at least the decision that was ultimately accepted. Does the presentation of such a position on the part of a senior minister necessitate drawing conclusions?

[Answer] What kind of a question is that? I would suggest that all the questions you have regarding the position of one minister you should present to him. I came here to explain the essence of the cabinet's decision.

[Question] Mr Minister, I thank you very much.

[Answer] Thank you very much.

DMC Leader Reacts

TA190859Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Jun 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] We will try to discuss a bit more before today's Knesset debate. We have on the phone the chairman of the DMC Knesset faction, Prof Amnon Rubinstein. Good morning, sir.

[Answer] Good morning.

[Question] How will the DMC vote at the end of today's debate?

[Answer] That is something it will have to decide at the faction meeting today, how it will vote. There are, in fact, two proposals.

[Question] What will the recommendations really be?

[Answer] One proposal is that there be freedom of voting, that the members each be able to vote as they wish.

[Question] What will you recommend to your faction?

[Answer] I beg your pardon?

[Question] What will you recommend to your members, in the voting?

[Answer] I would want to consult with them before I gave a position over the radio. I think they are entitled to hear this consultation before they hear it over the radio. I only want to emphasize one thing: from the aspect of the DMC, the matter of the autonomy and the impermanency of the autonomy are of enormous importance, because we lent our hands and supported the cabinet's peace program specifically against that background--that the autonomy was interpreted as being temporary. This is what we said, both in speeches in the Knesset and in other places and nobody protested. Because of this, this matter of the cabinet's reply is, for us, of more than usual importance.

[Question] Does it appear to you that the DMC is now at the beginning of a crisis or, at least, of something leading to a split? We can hear voices of people who will certainly support the cabinet decision and the debate's conclusion. We are getting the impression that the ranks are somewhat divided, or something--is this so?

[Answer] We will have to decide, first of all, whether we are to impose factional discipline. After that, we have a council and it will have to decide how it, the council, interprets the cabinet decision in view of the documents it has received. The council received a fairly clear document on the issue of the cabinet's peace policy which includes a paragraph determining that, if the cabinet does not follow this policy, the council will have to reconsider the continuation of our participation in the cabinet. I think this is a matter to be decided on by the council. We have a certain complication in that we are going to have an election next week, but it appears to me that, in accordance with the accepted rules, until there is a new council this one is sovereign and authorized to make any decision.

[Question] Do its decisions also apply to the debate today?

[Answer] Its decision will apply to the debate today, yes. It will, of course, not meet today. Today we have a rally of the faction and the secretariat. I have no doubt that the council's decision can be unambiguously interpreted in that it completely negates the cabinet decision which did not accept the DMC position and did not attempt to come toward the DMC on anything. No attempt was made to bridge the DMC position and that of the majority in the cabinet. This phenomenon also worries me: that is, the scornful attitude toward an important coalition partner.

[Question] Mr Rubinstein, following the debates, or following the Alinement's recommendations which will submit a no-confidence motion in accordance with your voting, or in accordance with your decision to vote, does it seem to you that there is any possibility that the DMC will vote for no confidence in the cabinet?

[Answer] No, I do not think so. I think that the party cannot vote for no confidence in a cabinet in which it is a member. I, at any rate, will oppose this. I think that there are elementary commitments which are a natural result of the coalition partnership. A vote of no confidence means leaving the cabinet; leaving the cabinet can be done only in accordance with a decision by the council.

[Question] Is the DMC's leaving the cabinet something which is inconceivable today, or is it possible?

[Answer] It is certainly possible, certainly possible.

[Question] Mr Rubinstein, I thank you very much. Good morning.

CABINET UNITED IN OPPOSITION TO W. BANK REFERENDUM

TA1903Z8Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 19 Jun 78 TA

[Text] This morning it was reported that at yesterday's cabinet session not one minister proposed introducing any sort of changes into the peace program and no minister proposed discussing the permanent status of the West Bank or the future relations with it during the 5 years of autonomy. Several ministers told correspondent Sara Frankel that no decision the cabinet would have passed would have satisfied the Americans, since the United States had hinted that the future of the autonomy would be determined by the inhabitants of the area and this means that a referendum would be held. The cabinet is united in its opposition to a referendum and so any decision passed would have, in any case, brought in its wake additional U.S. questions, our correspondent was told.

LABOR DISCUSSING ESTABLISHMENT OF MINORITY GOVERNMENT

TA160948Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 16 Jun 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Amnon Barzilay]

[Text] There were internal deliberations about the possibility of establishing a minority government headed by the Labor Party at the house of MK Abba Eban in Herzliyya Pitu'ah the day before yesterday. Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres; the chairman of the Alinement faction in the Knesset, MK Moshe Shahal; Knesset Members Gad Ya'aqobi, Shelomo Hillel, Eliyahu Speizer and 'Uzzi Bar'am; secretary of the Moshav Movement Arye Nehemqin; and secretary of the Tel Aviv Workers Council Dov Ben Me'ir participated.

The HA'AREZ correspondent has learned that in the discussion MK Peres assessed that it was conceivable that by Saturday or Sunday there might be far-reaching developments including the possibility that Mr Menahem Begin might resign as prime minister. In addition to this meeting, internal meetings between central personalities in the government and in the opposition have taken place over the past few days. One of them took place between Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and Former Prime Minister MK Yizhaq Rabin. It has also been learned that Mr Dayan stood behind the internal political deliberations between leaders of the Moshav Movement and MK Rabin.

At the meeting at MK Eban's house political and domestic assessments were made both with respect to the situation within the government and with respect to the peace negotiations, as viewed by world public opinion. Some of those who spoke pointed out that the cabinet dispute over the formulation of answers to the United States as well as the prime minister's ill health could accelerate the Labor Party's return to power. It was assessed that there is a possibility of forming a coalition based on 32 Knesset members from the Alinement and 12 Knesset members from the MAFDAL, but without MK Hayyim Druckman, without the DMC faction and without the Knesset members from the free center led by Shemu'el Tamir. In the opinion of those who spoke, such a government would enjoy the support of the Independent Liberals, the Citizens Rights Movement and Shelli (four Knesset members), while RAKAH might abstain. In that case the government would enjoy the support of 57-59 Knesset members (with RAKAH abstaining). It has also been learned that during the deliberations ideas were aired about the tactical moves the Labor Party should take in the next few days, the degree of force it should use against the prime minister with respect to his foreign and defense policy and with respect to the government's inadequacies.

During the talk the participants also discussed possible public reaction to an Alinement attempt to form a government led by it and the position the U.S. administration would adopt. Some of those present, including Knesset Members Eban and Hillel, were less convinced that such drastic changes in the political structure would occur in the next few days. They maintained that the party should now concentrate more on domestic party problems in an attempt to rehabilitate the party's image, and be patient.

In a conversation with the HA'AREZ correspondent, MK Eban refused to discuss the meeting at his home, but in answer to a question he said that if there is a government crisis over so simple a matter as making a statement about the willingness to make a territorial compromise then he believes that a government headed by Begin will go from crisis to crisis. "I certainly believe that the coalition's arithmetic distress gives a wrong impression."

At the same time, Eban said that the Labor Party must organize to meet new developments in which a new government is established without the participation of the Labor Party. The Likud, with 45 Knesset members, is the major factor in any new political deployment.

As for the contacts between Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and MK Yizhaq Rabin, Labor Party circles assessed that these are also a part of the future developments in the political structure. It has been learned that at the meeting initiated by Dayan between leaders of the Moshav Movement and Rabin, only those considered close to Mr Dayan came, including MK 'Amos Hadar and Mr Nehemquin. Senior activists considered close to Peres, including Mr Avraham Zilberberg, Nisim Villy, MK Nehamen Hakohen, MK Yehezqel Zakay and Mr Aharon Uzan, were absent. By their absence they expressed their dissatisfaction with the ties being woven between Dayan and Rabin via leaders of the Moshav Movement who are former members of RAFI.

The HA'AREZ correspondent has also learned that Begin's ill health was discussed at great length during the meeting at Eban's house. MK Eban justified discussing this issue saying that the prime minister's health is of national importance. He mentioned that when Levi Eshkol had a heart attack while prime minister, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir looked for possible candidates to take Eshkol's place.

Knesset Members Ya'aqobi, Hillel and Shahal also assessed that the government crisis might not take place within the next few days but at a later date. MK Ya'aqobi assessed that the government crisis can be expected when the questions become much more substantive and not at the present stage of providing answers.

In deliberations about the chances for peace and the resumption of negotiations with Egypt, Eban maintained that the Alinement could propose a formula that might effect a change in the negotiations. Shahal and Nehemqin assessed that the Alinement proposals could at least bring about a dialog between the United States and Israel. MK Peres also made this assessment.

It has also been learned that yesterday the MAFDAL leadership--Ministers Dr Yosef Burg, Zevulun Hammer and Aharon Abu-Hazera and MK Yehuda Ben Me'ir--met with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres to look into cooperation into the elections to the chief rabbinate and into Alinement support for the Ashkenazi chief rabbi, Shelomo Goren.

Yesterday, MAFDAL circles assessed that the talks with Mr Peres were another stage in tightening contacts between the two parties and this can be viewed in the context of the possible changes in the political deployment.

NRP REPORTEDLY ANGRY WITH ALINEMENT

TA161230Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 16 Jun 78 TA

[Text] At the top ranks of the MAFDAL there is anger because the impression has been created that talks were held with MK Shim'on Peres about the possibility of a change in the government. Correspondent Sara Frankel reports that yesterday the MAFDAL ministers and the chairman of the Knesset faction did indeed meet with MK Shim'on Peres, but they merely discussed the election for the chief rabbinate. The Labor Party has a majority in the body which elects the chief rabbinate, because the composition of that body is still based on the results of the previous election. At the meeting the MAFDAL leaders asked for the Labor Party's support for Rabbi Shelomo Goren, as they had also asked of the other parties.

HADDAD MAKES 'PRIVATE' VISIT TO METULLA

TA161620Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 16 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Maj Sa'd Haddad, the commander of Lebanese in the south, arrived in Metulla this afternoon for a private visit. Many inhabitants welcomed him with applause and shook his hands. He told his hosts: "I am alive and I hope to live for many more years." This morning, a foreign correspondent in Lebanon published an erroneous report that Haddad had been murdered.

RADIO CITES AL-JAMASI ON EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATING POSITION

NC180723Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 18 Jun 78 NC

[Text] It has just been reported that during his visit to the United States, the Egyptian war minister said that President as-Sadat is waiting for a sign of flexibility and moderation from Israel in order to resume the direct negotiations. He is particularly waiting for a positive reply from the Israeli Cabinet today concerning the U.S. queries.

Correspondent Eli Nissan has learned from a U.S. source that War Minister General al-Jamasi repeated the phrase "positive response" several times. He did not elaborate. Our correspondent reports, however, that the phrase is similar to the term currently employed by U.S. diplomats. Our correspondent stresses that this information has been conveyed to him by a U.S. sources and that it was not possible to get it confirmed by the Egyptian Embassy.

General al-Jamasi is already back in Egypt.

RADIO OF PATRIOTS REPORTS ON STRUGGLE AGAINST SHAH

LD182234 [Editorial report LD] Radio of the Patriots--clandestine--in Persian to Iran is intercepted in progress at 1625 GMT on 18 June 1978 broadcasting a talk denouncing the shah's regime as an imperialist tool in the region and also denouncing Israeli and Arab reaction. This is followed by a revolutionary anthem in Persian. This is in turn followed by an announcement and statement as follows:

"This is the Radio of Patriots. Struggling compatriots, the heroic sons of the struggling Iranian peoples have launched an unprecedented struggle and resistance. Masses of the people have risen throughout Iran; in every part of the country, from heroic Azerbaijan to Baluchestan, from Khorasan to Khuzestan, all the oppressed masses and all the hard-working strata and classes have waged a strike and rebellion against the shah's fascist regime. Iranian universities have been turned into invincible bastions for a struggle against the imperialist and dictatorial regime--something which has plunged the reactionaries into tremendous anxiety. More than 1,000 struggling students have been expelled from the universities, hundreds have been imprisoned and dozens have been killed by the shah's executioners. The city of Qom has been turned into an invincible bastion by struggling men of religion, and none of the regime's plots nor those of reactionary and conservative circles has been able to quiet the inhabitants of the city. The efforts of struggling workers, students, businessmen of the bazaar and men of religion continues unabated and the role of all these who seek a compromise, to make a deal with the shah's regime, have been thwarted.

"Struggling compatriots, the shah's dungeons are full of struggling and patriotic young people, men and women. Imprisoned heroes, with their valiant resistance, have created an epic in the prisons. These brave sons are resisting under the torture and threats by the shah's hirelings and are refusing to come to terms with the shah's hated regime. Boundless greetings to political prisoners, the valiant sons of the Iranian peoples, who continue to hold aloft the banner of struggle in the shah's dungeons. The families of political prisoners and revolutionary martyrs are continuing their struggle and resistance under the harshest possible conditions. It is the duty of all patriots to support the families of the martyrs and political prisoners and, by intensifying the revolutionary struggle, to overthrow this corrupt, imperialist-puppet regime.

"Greetings to the families of political prisoners and martyrs who have created an epic of resistance and struggle! Down with the dictatorial, imperialist-supported regime in Iran! Let the national struggle of writers, poets and Iranian artists against the dictatorial regime, against imperialism and against colonial culture become more intense! Down with compromisers and the regime's sworn hirelings!"

This is followed by another revolutionary anthem in Persian and a station announcement, including, in part, the following: "This is the Radio of Patriots. The Radio of Patriots is not affiliated with any group or organization. It is a tool in the service of the revolutionary struggle of Iranian peoples. We regard it as our revolutionary duty to exploit every opportunity to support the revolutionary struggle of Iranian peoples and to expose, as much as possible, the nature of the fascist-monarchical regime, Mohammad Reza's imperialist-puppet regime. To enrich the Radio of the Patriots, we call on all struggling and revolutionary compatriots to help in our important task by sending us their news and reports.

Following another revolutionary anthem the station then signs off as follows:

"Let the struggle of the valiant people of Palestine against imperialism's international expansion, against Zionism and against regional reaction be victorious! Let the valiant struggle of the people of Oman against imperialist aggressors and the Iranian and Arab reactions be victorious! Let the revolutionary struggles of the Middle Eastern peoples be victorious! Long live the revolutionary solidarity of the region! Greetings to the progressive and revolutionary forces in Lebanon! Let the revolutionary unity of the Middle Eastern peoples be victorious! Let the struggle of progressive and revolutionary forces in Egypt be victorious against imperialism, Zionism and As-Sadat's reactionary regime!

"This is the Radio of the Patriots, the voice of Iran's toilers and freedom lovers. Struggling compatriots, revolutionary strugglers, Radio of the Patriots' program comes to an end here. This program is broadcast every night for half an hour from 2115 hours [1615 GMT] on 202, 250, 267, and 445 meters mediumwave, and on 19, 25, 31 and 49 meters shortwave. Inform your friends and acquaintances about Radio of the Patriots' frequencies and broadcast time. Let your revolutionary struggle be successful and victorious!"

Following the closing announcement in Persian, the station resumes its normal program as Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic.

KHAL'ATBARI TELLS PRC'S HUANG HUA OF TWO COUNTRIES TIES

LD161555Y Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] In a speech at a luncheon given in honor of PRC Foreign Minister Huang Hua, Foreign Minister Khal'atbari said: "Relations between Iran and China are so profound and extensive that even an allusion to them would take a great deal of time." Referring to their friendly relations, Khal'atbari said: "Such relations have existed since the pre-Islamic era and before Christianity."

Commenting on the existing relations between Iran and the PRC, Khal'atbari said: "Since the resumption of relations between the two countries at the diplomatic level, the old friendship and understanding have been resumed; these relations are being strengthened daily." Continuing his remarks, the foreign minister said: "These days, as a result of foreign interference, a situation has been brought about in neighboring countries, as well as in Africa, which is threatening peace. Under these circumstances, exchanges of views between the two countries is most important."

Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua, while expressing pleasure at the forthcoming audience with the shah, said: "We have witnessed during contemporary history Iran's indefatigable struggle to preserve its security, independence and sovereignty. These struggles are admired by the Chinese people. In this regard, the two nations share a similar fate; this similar fate makes it possible for us to further strengthen our friendship. Moreover, the situation in today's world also bears this out."

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI MEETS WITH TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVES

LD170020Y Kabul in Dari to Europe 1600 GMT 16 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Nur Mohammad Taraki, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, received representatives of the Nurzai, Achakzai, Tajik and Barakzai tribes from the Shindand District Office in Farah Province at People's House at 1430 today.

The representatives of the tribes began by conveying their congratulations to the general secretary of the Afghanistan Democratic People's Party in connection with the victorious April revolution and the inception of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and expressed their desire to generously and selflessly support the country's revolutionary regime.

After replying to their patriotic sentiments, Nur Mohammad Taraki expounded on the April revolution and, expressing happiness for their backing and solidarity with the revolutionary regime, said: I am confident that the noble Afghan people, just as they welcomed the inception of the democratic revolution in the country, will not hold back in working to realize the sacred goals of the revolution, giving all cooperation and help to the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The prime minister and chairman of the Revolutionary Council asked the representatives of the tribes to convey his warm greetings to their tribes and assure them that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan belongs to them and is at their service.

NEW FLAG TO BE ADOPTED; QADER PROMOTED

BK161307Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1259 GMT 16 Jun 78 BK

[Text] Islamabad, June 16 (AFP)--Afghanistan's leftist regime has decided to give the country a new national flag, according to Radio Kabul monitored here.

The radio also reported a decision to promote Defence Minister Lt Col Abdol Qader to the rank of brigadier general. A Soviet trained pilot, Qader played a prominent part in the April coup that brought the leftists to power in the mountainous country.

According to the radio, the Afghan Revolutionary Council, headed by President Taraki, has been expanded with the inclusion of 13 people representing various tribes.

INDIA

DESAI RETURNS FROM EUROPEAN, U.S. TRIPS

BK170339Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jun 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister today returned home to a warm welcome after his 12-day visit abroad. At Delhi airport, Mr Morarji Desai was greeted, among others, by most of his cabinet colleagues; the Janata Party president, Mr Chandra Shekher; the chief ministers of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh; the mayor of Delhi; and diplomats.

Mr Desai told newsmen at the airport that his talks with the leaders of the countries he visited were very good and covered all subjects.

About his talks with President Carter, he said: They were very successful and useful.

Mr Desai said his talks with the British prime minister, Mr Callaghan, and the trip to Brussels in Belgium were also wholly successful.

He will schedule a news conference for this evening.

DESAI FORESEES BETTER RELATIONS WITH U.S.

BK171050Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Jun 78 BK

[Text] The prime minister said India's stand on the nuclear proliferation [as heard] treaty has been understood in its great perspective after his talks with President Carter and the U.S. congressional leaders. Mr Desai conveyed this impression in an interview with the Delhi Durdarsan [TV] recorded after his return from the United States.

About relations with the United States, Desai said that friendship between the two countries has grown after the exchange of visits between him and President Carter. Our policy of nonalinement is not only understood in the United States but is respected as well. He said it is our view that only when every country has become nonalined in a way [as heard], equal friendship could be established between all and the threat of war removed from the world.

THAILAND'S SUNTHON MEETS WITH DESAI 17 JUNE

BK180946Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1730 GMT 17 Jun 78 BK

[Text] New Delhi, June 17 (AFP)--Visiting Thai Deputy Prime Minister Sunthon Hongladarom had a 30-minute meeting with Prime Minister Morarji Desai this evening.

Mr Sunthon, who arrived here on Thursday on an official visit at the invitation of Indian Government, also paid a courtesy call on the President Sanjiva Reddy.

GANDHI CRITICIZES INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST STANCE

BK170954Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jun 78 BK

[Text] The Congress-I President, Mrs Gandhi, has criticized the government's decision not to have nuclear explosions even for peaceful purposes.

Speaking at a meeting of her party workers in Delhi, Mrs Gandhi said some foreign countries did not take kindly to India's nuclear explosion for peaceful purposes. She described as unfortunate that the prime minister had assured the United States that India will not conduct nuclear experiments even for peaceful purposes.

She also criticized policies of the Janata Party government which, she said, are not benefitting the poor at all.

PAKISTAN

ARMY TAKES CONTROL OF AIRPORT FOLLOWING CLASHES

OW171623Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1620 GMT 17 Jun 78 OW

[Text] Islamabad, June 17 (AFP)--Pakistani troops today took control of Karachi International Airport following armed clashes between baggage loaders and airport security forces.

Airport sources said firearms were used during the incident which left eight wounded.

Following the clashes, Pakistan International Airlines staff in Karachi went on strike, causing delays to incoming and outgoing flights.

Government Orders Inquiry

BK171718Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Jun 78 BK

[Text] It has been officially stated in Karachi that the martial law authorities have ordered an inquiry into an incident which took place at the Karachi airport today. The inquiry would be conducted by Brig Mohammad Aslam.

The incident resulted in the disruption of normal working and operation of flights. During a scuffle between the PIA [Pakistan International Airlines] traffic staff and security elements, some people were injured. However, no serious injuries have been reported. The civil and police authorities immediately reached the spot.

The martial law authorities who immediately arrived decided that the army personnel will assume control of security and overall coordination of the airport. They also decided that no person except those of the army would carry any arms within a radius of half a mile of the main airport building or the runway. The operation at the airport is normal and, according to a PIA spokesman, some flights, both internal and international, will operate tonight.

HAQ REITERATES NEED FOR NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT

BK170952Y Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Jun 78 BK

[Text] The chief of the army staff and chief martial law administrator, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has reaffirmed Pakistan's determination to acquire an atomic reprocessing plant and has said that it is essential for the country's overall development. He said this while inaugurating a 3-week international seminar on physics and contemporary needs in Nathiakhali this morning.

He said this plant will be used for peaceful purposes in order to improve the living standards of the people.

The chief martial law administrator said the government is determined to promote science and technology and improve the welfare of Pakistani scientists. He said the government has allocated a substantial amount of money in the next 5-year development plan for this purpose.

The seminar has been organized by the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission with the help of the International Center of Theoretical Physics. Scientists from 20 countries, including Algeria, Brazil, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Malaysia, Spain and Turkey are participating in the seminar.

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